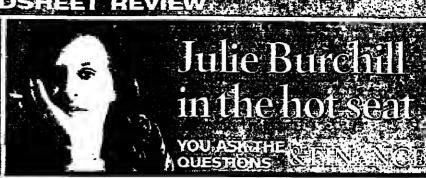
THE INDEPENDENT









Mourners carry the coffins of Richard, Mark and Jason Quinn, the three brothers murdered in a firebomb attack on their Co Antrim home on Sunday morning David Rose

Brown's £56bn pledge to improve public services

BY COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

GORDON BROWN yesterday announced a £56bn three year boost to public services designed to meet Labour's election pledges and pave the way

for another term in office. The Chancellor's long awaited Comprehensive Spending Review amounts to the first major boost to public spending since Margaret Thatcher came

to power in 1979. Buoyed by the 0.5 per cent fall in the inflation to 3.7 per cent, the Chancellor of the Exchequer delighted cheering Labour MPs by announcing that the lion's share of the extra spending - £40bn - would be devoted to education and health to meet election promises on cutting NHS waiting lists and reducing class sizes.

There will be more money hut only in return for modernisation," said Mr Brown in his 29-minute announcement. The extra money will come from cutting debt, imposing a tight squeeze on public sector pay and asset sales of £11bn.
This is prudence for a pur●£21bn boost for health ●£19bn extra for education

 Minimum income for poor pensioners
 Substantial investment in public transport • More cash for jobs

gramme of higher spending on free dental check-ups are not to the Government's priorities will see health spending rise by 4.7 per cent in real terms and education by 5.1 per cent.

There was growing scepticism, however, about whether Mr Brown can deliver his promises. The programme will depend on sustained growth, which could prove a mirage if the economy goes into recession, "Gordon is walking on water, but there is going to be a big splash, if unemployment goes up." said one ministerial

The Chancellor announced a £2.5bn increase in Harriet Harman's welfare budget for pensioners, with a boost in income support for poorer pensioners which will be paid automatically as part of the state pension. and the abolition of charges for the next three years to meet though his budget is being held was being paid for by higher eye tests for pensioners. There etection pledges on the third at a standstill. There was also taxes. But some Shadow Caband the abolition of charges for

The Chancellor's pro- was some disappointment that

kett, the Secretary of State for Education, and Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for

In addition to David Blun-Health, the main Cabinet win-

Business outlook, page 19

Spending review reports and onalysis, pages 6 & 7 Parliament, page 8

Review, page 3 ners from the Review were: Clare Short with an increase of

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, won an increase of £44m £900m in international aid over for the BBC foreign service, al-

Leading Article.

world: Jack Straw, the Home

Secretary, with an extra £3bn

for law and order, and John

Prescott, the Deputy Prime

Minister's whose housing bud-

get will increase by £3.6bn with

an extra £2bn for public trans-

port over the next three years.

INSIDE

a small increase of £290m over three years for the arts under Culture Secretary, Chris Smith, which the Chancellor said would be used to increase access to museums, as foreshadowed yesterday in The independent.

The losers include Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture minister, whose budget will be cut. But as the small print was being accused of using "smoke and mirrors".

The Tories were split over how to deal with the unexpected size of the increases. William Hague's office described it as a "pre-election binge - they are spending more than expected." Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, and Kenneth Clarke, the ex-Chancellor both claimed the higher spending

inet ministers accused the Chancellor of artificially inflat-

The Liberal Democrats welcomed the increased spending oo health and education, but said the total increases over a five-year term were 3.7 per cent compared to 4.1 per cent achieved by the Tories under John Major. The Scottish Nationalist Party also accused Labour of increasing spending less than the Tories.

By highlighting the accumulated total increases over the next three years, the Chancellor was able to demonstrate he is delivering more money than ever before to public services in a historic shift of restudied, the Chancellor was sources, which sets New Labour's stamp on the delivery

of services by the Government. But the cash increases were less impressive when the current year's allocations were compared with the final year in 2001-2. Health spending in England is set to rise by £9bn and is likely to be £11bn higher when Wales and Scotland are included; Education spending will be £4.5hn higher in cash terms than the current year at

'The only sound was of crying and shutters clicking'

ON another day some of the BY ANN TRENEMAN Quinn family men might look in Rasharkin fierce, with their pierced ears and eyebrows, flamboyant tatbegan to walk down to the running down his face and so

vesterday there were no fierce one villager as they walked by men on this saddest of occasions in the village of Rasharkin in Northern Ireland, their mother Christine to do so. It seemed a tong funeral but, in fact, it began and ended started to spill out of the white single-storey home in a cul-de-Catholic, if lapsed, and gave them a Catholic funeral er. It is here that the boys' Elsewhere it would be said

Lee, 13, would be among the al hatreds after Sunday night's attack. But in Rasharkin vesvoungest to walk out on to the driveway only to turn back and terday there was not much talk look inside the open front door. The coffins emerged one

The men swapped places by one, until they were lined up outside the bouse: three small under the coffins. Christine's estranged busband, John Dillon, white containers with gold hancarried each coffin in turn as he dles and a gold cross on top. walked along the road that fi-Each lid also carried a photonally left the village. Here, the graph of the boy inside: procession stopped, and each Richard, 11; Mark, 10; and coffin was loaded into the hearse. The trip to the Church day last week. The only sound of Our Lady and St Patrick in was of crying and shutters Ballymoney had begun.

The mass began at around 11am. The church is large and clicking from the dozens of photographers gathered in the made of beautiful grey stone, but could not hold the hundreds Slowly, the Quinn men stepped forward to give their who came, so some sat outside, shoulders to a coffin. They Continued on page 2

Jason, who had his ninth birth-

middle of the cul-de-sac.

Double gamble the Chancellor dare not lose

THE CHANCELLOR'S team billed the spending round as "bigger than the Budget". It is. Gordon Brown is making two giant gambles. The first is a financial and economic one: that the new public spending plans can be sustained in the face of a probable slowdown in the economy. The second is a political one: that the health and education industries can modernise themselves in response to the additional resources being offered, and that there will be sufficient improvement in their performance evident by the next election to justify the money they will receive.

The increase in public spending, while modest overall. will require only a modest slowdown this year and a return to reasonable growth through the rest of the life of this parliament. If growth turns out to be slower or worse than expected, if there were to be a post-millennial recession; then tax revenues would be lower than forecast and the pressure on public

spending would be higher. Since it has rejected any significant increase in borrowing, the Government would be forced either to cut back on its promised spending, or put up



HAMISH MCRAE

So in economic and financial terms Mr Brown is making a bet not just on the continued reasonable performance of the British economy, which ar-

ued reasonable growth in the world economy, which selfevidently is not.

The political bet is that British taxpavers will not just get additional bangs for their bucks, but they will also recog-

The additional money for the twin priorities of the Government, spending on heath and education, has been closely linked to reforms which those two industries will be required to carry out in return for the

The choice of priorities will

guably is to some extent with be widely applauded, for these nised as such by consumers in his control; but also contin- are areas where there is not and voters. Both health and edonly great popular demand for ucation have absorbed large improved services. They both also have a long-term influence on the country's competitive potential.

Human capital has become the most important form of capital of today's corporations. and hence the main engine of economic growth.

there were not some evident improvement in both health care and education as a result of these measures. The issue is whether any improvements will party's history - will suddenly be sufficiently large to be recog-recede.

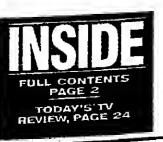
quantities of additional resources (though not on this scale) in recent years yet have found themselves perceived as

cutting hack their services. Can they lift their game? If they can, they will be cheered to the roof-tops. If not, it will not just be them but Mr Brown who It would be astounding if will he in serious trouble. For if he loses either of his gambles, the prospect of a full second term for Labour - something it has never achieved in the

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HOME NEWS HOME NEWS

may establish the first network of privately run

A baby died after being shaken "backwards and forwards as hard as possible", a jury heard

FOREIGN NEWS

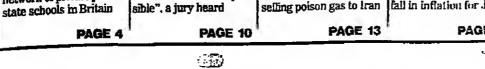
Netanyahu was accused The FTSE-100 soared of meddling in the trial of 140 points to close an Israeli convicted of

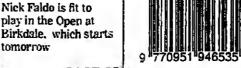
above 6,100 following a fall in inflation for June PAGE 17

IBUSINESS

play in the Open at Birkdale, which starts

PAGE 30





SPORT



French

over

death

criticised

Briton's

INDEX

HOME NEWS

Drugs war has failed, says NAO Customs officers are failing to stop traffickers swamping Britain with drugs despite record seizures, accord-

ing to evidence to a Government watchdog. Page 5 Bid to block Nilsen writing book

The Prison Service is holding talks with its legal advisers to try and prevent the serial killer Dennis Nilsen from publishing his autobiography.

> FOREIGN NEWS PAGES 13 - 17

Chirac taps into football frenzy France "re-discovered its soul" when it woo the World Cup. President Chirac said.

Clinton's plan to beat 2000 bug President Clinton has announced plans to head off the year 2000 computer problem.

> **BUSINESS NEWS** PAGES 18 - 23

C&W 'to buy internet business' Cable & Wireless is close to taking full control of MCI's internet businesses.

Warning wilts Flowers' shares Shares in Flying Flowers almost halved after the company issued a profit warning. Page 21

SPORTS NEWS

Hamburger leads Tour de France Denmark's Bo Hamburger snatched the Tour de France lead after Jens Heppner of Germany sprinted to victory in the third stage.

Words of comfort for Beckham David Beckham began pre-season training with Manchester United with comforting words from Alex Fer-

WEDNESDAY REVIEW 24-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION

Ken Livingstone

"In a secret ballot of Labour MPs, Gordon Brown would he replaced in the Treasury hy Rohin Cook." Page 4

David McKittrick

"Drumcree was a defeat for elements who oppose the Good Friday agreement and the whole idea of a new partnership coalition.

Money, finance

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Features	8-9	Radio, Satellite TV
Arts	10-11	Concise crossword
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Cryptic crossword, section one, page 30

Residents shun memory of Carnany Park estate



The quiet houses of the Carnany Park estate, where the removal vans are already in the streets

THE REMOVAL vans have been BY KIM SENGUPTA moving into Carnany Park, AND NICOLE VEASH

where Jason, Mark and Richard Quinn were murdered, the victims of a petrol bomb. Many neighbours now want

to move out of the estate, some have already decided to do so. The area will forever be associated with one of Ulster's worst atrocities. The families which have al-

ready gone are Catholics who had been targeted for a little local ethnic cleansing. Bullets had been sent to them through the post in the days before the attack on the home of Chrissie Quinn and her family.

"I saw one of them pack up her stuff and leave with her tant has been living in Carnany family just yesterday, said for seven years. "You are al- "They hadn't heen living here between the communities at with possession Tracey, who is a Protestant, ways having to watch what you all that loog but the boys got on Carnany Park. There had been substances.

outside her house a few doors along from the Quinns.

"That woman was Catholic, and she has lived in this estate about the same time as me, 17 years. Frankly, I want to get out as well, the atmosphere around here is terrible since what happened on Sun-

It's such a shame, Catholics and Protestants have oever had any trouble here before, we all got on very well together, all that's been spoilt."

Her friend Julie, 27, a mother of three and also a Protessay around you. the two guys with most people. How can the police arrested are local," anyone do this? Some people the police arrested are local," she said.

"I want to get out of here as well. From now on this estate will be known as the place where they murdered little

at it. Surely the housing authority does not expect another family to live there after what has happeoed? Jason Walker and his girl-

friend Susan, both 18, stood in front of the Quinn home looking at the steadily growing pile

Each time I think of these wee boys I just cry", said Susan. are just sick." Jasoo and Susan oot only

want to leave the area, but Northern Ireland. "There is no future here," said Jason. "It makes me laugh when they "They should pull that house talk about the peace process, down, it's upsetting just to look there is oo peace, there will be no peace here."

Two cousins of Chrissie Quinn. Shirley and Marlene Patton, are still living at the estate. Ms Quino was a Catholic. but her cousins are Protes-

Their father, Robert Patton, said as he was leaving the funeral service: "It will take a miracle now to rebuild that bridge good relations before, and that had been achieved through hard work on both sides. "I doo't what what's going to

happen now, both Catholics and Protestants want to leave." At Drumcree Church, the

Orange Order moved into the ninth day of their record protest vesterday, still insisting they have the right to march their traditional route down the Nationalist Garvaghy Road. ■ Three men, aged 19, 21 and

25, and a woman aged 21, were last night charged with conspiracy to cause explosions in London on Friday, Scotland Yard said.

The two younger men and the woman were also charged with possession of explosive

BY MAXINE FRITH A CORONER yesterday severely criticised French police for their investigation into the murder of a British tourist in Businessman Roderick Jock" Henderson died after being allegedly attacked by a gang of youths on the Champs

Elysees last October, his inquest at Dartford, Kent, heard. Coroner Roger Hatch called on the British government to raise the issue with the French authorities. He recorded a ver-

dict of unlawful killing. The inquest heard Mr Henderson, from Swanley, Kent,

was killed after being attacked by a gang of rollerbladers while leaving a par in the early hours. He was in the French capital celebrating his fifty-fourth hirthday with his wife Eve, son Scott, 29, his fiancee Jenny, and Scott's sister Nicola and her husband.

Mr Henderson was taken to hospital with severe brain damage. Mrs Henderson decided to turn off his life support machine three days later Mrs Henderson told the in-

quest she had to go to three police stations before detectives accepted it was a criminal matter and took a statement. Since then, she has had no contact with the police. They failed to seal off the sceoe and had traced no witnesses. Mr Hatch, recording his ver-

dict, said: "It seems to me very unfortunate that she has received very little co-operation from the French authorities. "I am aware that there have

been steps taken by the British embassy and the Foreign Office and they have been met by a brick wall of virtual silence. "It is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. I can only express the hope that perhaps others in a position of government might listen to what has been said to me and take steps to avoid any similar incident."

Speaking afterwards, Mrs Henderson said she wanted Foreign Secretary Robin Cook to take up the matter with his French counterpart.

"I am delighted with the verdict that the Coroner has brought forward." she added. "I am happy about that but the French police. I don't believe in being hitter but I am

pened in this country, I am sure whoever did it would have

'This was pure, bigoted, sectarian murder'

FROM FRONT PAGE

listening to the service through the loudspeaker. Not thern Ireland's Deputy First Minister, Seamus Mallon, was there, as was a representative of Presideot Bill Clinton.

The local priest, the Very Rev Peter Forde, said the deaths had touched hearts around the

MINOLTA

mits any avil act." he said. "He does not want anyone to murder or to sin in any way. But sadly we do sin. Sadly some people eveo kill."

Outside, two men were talking in whispers. Both were friends of the family. There were rumours that the attack was crime-related, not sectar-

world. "It is not God who com- ian, but one of the men said: "It we can all listen to what Cod is early afternoon when they were re. bigoted. sectarian murder, of that you can be 100 per cent sure." People of all faiths were disgusted.

The Bishop of Down and Connor the Most Rev Patrick Walsh, said what was needed now was not more harsh words but silence - "Not a brooding sileoce but the sileoce in which journey to Rasharkin. It was

saving to us. Or will strident voices try to drown out once more the quiet voice of God?"

Then after more prayers and hymns and a remembrance from one of the boys' friends, it was over and the three tiny coffins came out of the church and back into the hearse for the

HIGH TIPES

unicaded at another large church and taken to the graveyard. Here, finally, the Quinn family men could put down their young dead boys and give them to the ground which was immediately covered in flowers for these innocents, who were not Catholic but must be mar-

She added: "If it had hap been caught by now."

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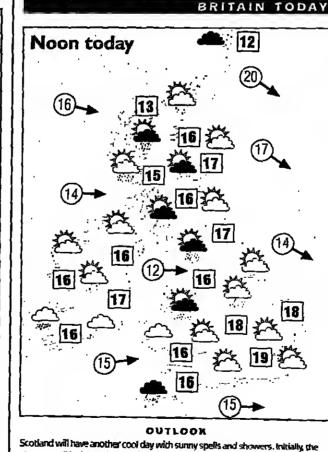
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showers will be in south-west Scotland, but they will break out further north and east during the day. Northern Ireland may have early showers, but these will die out to leave a mostly dry and bright day. Meanwhile, England and Wales will have sunny spells and a few showers - most of the showers will be in northern England during the morning. South Wales and the West Country will turn wer by evening.

NEXT FEW DAYS

Tomorrow will start wet across east Wales, the Midlands and south-east England. Rain will linger into the afternoon across south-east England and East Anglia, but here it will turn drier and brighter. The rest of the UK will be bright with surmy spells and just the odd shower. Friday and the weekend will be changeab with sunny intervals, showers and longer spells of rain. Temperatures will be a little below the July average.

YESTERDAY

03:46 9.2 16:13 8.6 12:00 12.3 00.25 12.2 Hull (Albert Dock) 70:55 8.4 23:33 8.0 Greenock 05:07 3.5 17:41 3.3 Dun Laoghaire 04:05 4.1 16:49 3.7 AIR OUALITY SUN & MOON WEATHERLINE

AIR QUALITY

THE WORLD ATLANTIC CHART, NOON TODAY

Health risk: A government-appointed panel has approved silicone-gel enlargements, but some experts still have doubts

Health risk: A government of the Breast implants get the official .all-clear. But does it mean they are safe?

Examples of silicone get breast implants, once described as a time-bomb ticking in women's chests

should be set up to provide in-

formation on the risks and ben-

efits that should be listed in all

the final analysis, the suggest-

Professor Sturrock said: "in

a time-bomb ticking in women's chests, but silicone gel breast implants were cleared of caus- a lumpy texture, and what it ing disease yesterday by an independent group of experts.

However, the Governmentappointed panel did warn that private cosmetic surgery clining the risks - a move that one

of double-glazing salesmen. The conclusions of the sevenmember Independent Review explain these risks - that could Group, set up last year, are unthe implants that are used by an estimated 100,000 women. About 8.000 operations are carried out each year, of which two thirds are for cosmetic reasons - the vast majority done by cosmetic surgery clinics which advertise in women's magazines.

Last week the US silicone breast implant manufacturer Dow Corning announced a \$3.2bn compensation package to settle worldwide claims against it. An estimated 177,000 women have joined class actions against the company including 3,500 from Britain. Although the company denies liability, claiming that a settlement is the only way to curb legal costs mounting at \$1m a day, for many women its action bas confirmed their worst fears that the implants are in fact

In its report, the Independent Review Group seeks to quell these fears by drawing a distinction between local effects, such as hardening of the implant which gives the breast

THEY HAVE BEEN described as By JEREMY LAURENCE and JCHARLES ARTHUR

calls "distant and systemic effects" - evidence of a link with disease. Although the group found no evidence that silicone was a poison or that It caused ics were pressurising women an abnormal immune responinto operation without explain- se, It said there were risks of local effects associated with professor likened to the tactics any operation to implant a foreign material into the body. Private clinics were failing to include infection, bardening of the implant - as they were driven by commercial rather than bealth considerations. Ads for breast enlargement in women's magazines also failed to alert women to the risks or make clear where information could be obtained. "Women ... are frequently given inadequate information about the operation and any possible problems associated with it. They may be

> ered the advantages and disadvantages," it says. Yet, even as the panel was publicising its findings, a Cambridge-based company, which makes testing kits for hospitals for "auto-immune" diseases like arthritis, said it bad found evidence that some people may have an immune reaction to silicone gel -chemically, the polymer polydimethyl siloxane that could explain the problems

before they have fully consid-

many women have reported. Dr Mike Walker of Genesis Diagnostics claimed yesterday that in blind tests, his compa-

ny had identified people whose blood contains antibodies that react with silicone. If confirmed, the work would be remarkable in establishing an antibody reaction to an inorganic material containing no amino acids. Though the body will become inflamed where inorganic material (like glass) is present, anti-

bodies can only target proteins. Professor Roger Sturrock, chairman of the expert group and professor of rbeumatology at the University of Glasgow, said the group had consulted patients, doctors, lawyers, researchers and the manufacturers as well as examining new and existing evidence. Silicone implants have been implicated in connective tissue diseases such as scleroderma, in which the skin becomes hard and leathery, causing stiffening of the joints; and arthritis, but the group found no evidence of any link. Women with the implants were no more likely to be ill than women without them, and pressurised into going ahead ... there was no evidence that their children were at greater risk.

Meanwhile Professor David Sharpe, president of the British Association of Aesthetic [cosmetic] Plastic Surgeons. accused "cowboy" cosmetic clinics of operating like double glazing salesmen. Most plastic surgeons observed high standards, but that did not stop entrepreneurs setting up clinics and hiring surgeons of lesser quality who might cut corners.

They are often filled with surgeons who have not made the grade as consultants and they employ counsellors who are nothing more than sales

IT COST US AN ARM

AND A LEG!

girls," he said. The pressure applied to women was revealed when 16 volunteers agreed to phone clinics for a survey in the ads for breast enlargement. current British Journal of Plastic Surgery. Professor Sharpe said: "Many of the women who ed link with these implants made the calls for that study and any connective tissue diswere still being pursued a year later. The clinics had got their numbers from directory enquir-hypotheses suggesting an ab-

ies and were phoning up to tell them about this week's special normal immune response have not been proven." The report offer of an implant for £500. says there are no grounds for These are practices more in further epidemiological studies. tune with double glazing sales. Professor Sharpe said that

one in seven women having implants lost sensation in their nipples which in some cases was permanent; one in ten experienced "capsular contracture" - hardening of the implant and there were the scars to think about. Among women with older implants - inserted pre-1988 - about one in four ruptured, but in the newer type which had a thicker shell, this was less of a problem.

"The vast majority of women with implants think that they are a great thing, but if you sit back objectively and listen to what can go wrong, you have to be pretty determined to have them. They are safe from a health point of view, but they are not a fashion accessory because there are problems with them. and these should be explained."

The Independent Review Group's report says measures should be introduced to ensure proper standards of care in private clinics, a "cooling off" period of several days between consultation with the surgeon and the operation and a body

A cosmetic whim led to disaster

CHRISTINE WILLIAMSON was 29 when she got breast implants in 1979, paying £1,900 at a clinic. "I had been breast-feeding and my breasts had reduced in size." she said. "My friends were having implants, and my busband thought they would look good. Immediately afterwards,

صكذا من الاعل

she was very pleased. But while patients now are recommended to have the implants changed every five years or so, she kept hers for 13 years. The only drawback she noticed then was occasional hardening which would be dealt with every so often by a surgeon who would "squeeze" the implants, forcing a little of the filling material out to soften them again.

But one burst when a surgeon squeezed them again in 1992, Christine, who lives in Hackney, east London, was put on an 18month waiting list for an NHS operation to repair the damage. She became ill, with aching joints and excessive sensitivity to touch. Her marriage foundered.



She went into hospital in April 1994 for the operation. "I was expecting to be back to normal. But when I woke up I found they had cut off my right breast, and removed the lymph glands up to the armpit and a lump of silicone under the skin on top of my arm." She thought there had

been an error, and sued. But in court the hospital produced evidence that the mastectomy had been required. Christine did. however, win some compensation, on the basis that the doctors did not have consent for the operation.

Christine says her advice to anyone thinking of implants: Don't do it. Forty per cent of women will be

'My advice to all women - Don't'

IT IS three years since Elaine Coomber, 52, had her silicone breast implants removed, and she still suffers from chronic fabgue, joint pain and stiffness. She had the implants when she was 29 to enlarge her breasts and lived with them for 20 years. "I was told But members of the Indepenthey would last a lifetime. dent Review Group said later They clearly don't," she said.

Within a year, they began to harden, the scars remained sore, and for years she experifor the implant, in 30-40 per cent enced flu-like symptoms of cases, implants are used to which she attributed to an restore the shape of the breast overloaded immune system. after surgery for cancer, the psychological effects of which "I didn't think there was anything I could do. The doctors said I would have to put up In cosmetic cases, women who

When she was 34 she had a bysterectomy to deal with persistent gynaecological prob-



reading of problems caused by breast implants, she paid £4,000 to have hers removed privately after her NHS doctor had said there was nothing wrong. She founded the pressure group Survivors of Silicone. She dismissed yester day's report from the Independent Review Group as "totally inadequate".

"We don't need guidelines, we need legislation."

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that the health problems suf-

fered by women with implants

might be related to the reason

may explain further ill health.

have concerns about their body

image may also be more prone

to fatigue, and aches and pains.

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Inquiry after trainee staff told to walk on hot coals

AN INVESTIGATION has been By ANDREW BUNCOMBE launched after seven trainee sales staff suffered burns while walking on hot coals during a "motivational" training course. Two of the trainees had to be taken to a specialist burns unit

after being invited to take off their shoes and socks and walk over the glowing embers. Yesterday environmental bealth officers said they were looking into the incident, involving staff from the insurance group Eagle Star. Meanwhile, Eagle Star said it

was considering legal action

against Infinite Breakthrough

Technologies, the company that organised the firewalk. We knew that the firewalk was a planned part of the day but obviously we trusted the training company," said a spokeswoman.

"We are trying to find out exactly what happened and part of the review will decide

whether legal action is appro-

"Obviously something went very wrong and seven of the staff ended up with burns and some had serious burns. Some of the staff are now back at work, but others are still recuperating at bome."

Eagle Star said it was the first time - and probably the last - that the firm had used them. The spokeswoman refused to say how much Eagle Star had paid for the course.

The incident happened last Thursday in the grounds of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Moathouse Hotel, where Eagle Star regularly holds courses for its staff. The 10 trainees - in their 20s and 30s - were sales staff attached to Eagle Star Life, the company's life assurance arm. Walking on the coals was

they wanted to do it," the spokeswoman said. She could not explain why the trainees continued to walk on the coals baving seen some of their colleagues get burnt.

The botel manager John Cullen, said it had not been involved in the training day. "They were in a far corner of the hotel grounds and we knew not compulsory but ... they felt nothing about it," he said.

The first we knew was when people came in and said they had suffered burns to their feet. A number of them went to

Two of the trainees were so badly hurt that they were transferred to the specialist burns unit at the Frenchay Hospital in Bristol where they were kept Last night, Peter Richard-

son, chief environmental services officer for Tewkesbury Borough Council, said a full investigation had been launched. "We are investigating to

Safety at Work legislation has been broken," he said. Officers are due to meet with senior officials from Eagle

see whether the Health and

Star later today. No one from Infinite Breakthrough Technologies, based in Bromley, south-east London. was available to comment last Education: Firm says it is talking with six councils on setting up network of privately run state schools

American company says it can save our sink schools

to turn round inner-city education for profit is in talks with six local authorities with a view to establishing the first of a network of privately run state

Eventually the Edison Project hopes to run up to 50 British schools using methods pioneered in cities such as Boston an injection about £1m. and Detroit, its chairman, Benno Schmidt, said yesterday.

Mr Schmidt, a former president of Yale University, said his company was interested in working with individual schools and local authorities, as well as helping to run education action zones. Talks with "six or seven" authorities were exploratory, hut he is hopeful that councils would take up the idea.

"We would start with a handful of schools with the option that if we did a good jnb we could create more partner-ships in the future," he said.

"It would not make sense to do it unless under the hope and expectation that, in time, there might be a fairly large number of UK schools.

"I'm hoping my discussions with local education authorities and schools will perhaps enable us to present a somewhat clearer set of options, operating and hudget options, for policymakers to consider."

Edison runs 25 schools in the United States under contract to local authorities and has plans to open 25 more by the end of he run for profit, but Mr for the Government's pro- could operate under convengramme of education action tional consultancy arrangezones, and was involved in hids

The first 12 zones will open in September, with powers to change the curriculum, teachers' contracts and the school year, under a £1m-a-year pro**Education Correspondent**

Mr Schmidt, speaking after giving evidence to the Commons education select committee, said massive capital investment was needed in schools, arguing that an average secondary school needed

The Edison Project specialises in giving schools a new start, often with a new head, virtually an all-new staff and a curriculum developed by the company's team of education

Its schools operate an extended eight-hour day and have only nine or ten weeks' holiday a year, compared with 13 weeks in British schools - a regime Mr Schmidt said was favoured by parents, pupils and teachers.

The pupils have extended lessons and specially timetabled small classes for key subjects such as maths and English.

Mr Schmidt told MPs: "Your schools are starved of research and development. Your schools do not have the capital that serious, systematic innovation "I believe that one approach

in the UK among many to achieve innovation and high levels of achievement is to introduce the private sector."

David Blunkett, the Secrehas insisted that schools will not the year. It was the inspiration Schmidt said his company ments.

Last night. Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said he "will be keeping a close



Children at Boston Renaissance School, which parents overwhelmingly approve. It has a waiting list of 2,000

Every teacher has a laptop and each pupil has a home computer

SEVEN HILLS School in By JUDITH JUDD Worcester, Massachusetts, Education Editor takes on children after other schools give up on them. It is one of 25 schools in deprived parts of the United States managed by the Edison Project.

Children from across Worcester can apply and this tary of State for Education, year the 19 places available drew more than 500 applicants.

Teachers at Seven Hills work longer hours than their counterparts in neighbouring state schools and have shorter holidays. There are 46 teachers -

Edison paid £3m to renovate a derelict school to provide has a laptop and every child is provided with a computer at

The school is run by a board

oversees the school through a separate charter company. It awarded the management contract to the Edison Project. hut the American equivalent of the local authority continues to fund the school.

If Edison can educate children for less than the allowance handed out for each pupil, It makes a profit.

were established just under are said to be improving rapidcess is open to question.

waiting list of 2,000, while the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences had to hold a lottery

for 690 places. Four out of five parents at the Boston school said the school was better than their child's previous school

Last December, a report from Edison said that students entering its schools at the age of eight or nine improved their test scores by more than 25 per cent over two years and were better at reading than their counterparts in ordinary schools. Attendance was 94 per cent - well above the national av-

But a report earlier this year from the National Education Asunion in the United States, said that test results from Edison

schools were mixed. Indeed, the company's claim of dramatic gains over two years was true of only one test. United States is also in doubt. in one school - Dodge-Edison in Wichita. Students at Dodge-Edison did less well on another test than those in seven publicly run nearby schools with similar types of pupils.

At Washington Elementary, an Edison school in Sherman, Texas, student achievement had been falling since the project took over, the association said. "A more objective analysis of the available data shows The first Edison schools erage. Literacy and numeracy that student achievement in a couple of Edison schools is

> opened only in 1995 it may be too early to make a final judgement, but the success of other experiments involving compa-

Researchers from the University of Maryland found that test scores fell in the first two years in which a company called Education Alternatives ran nine inner-city schools in Baltimore. They then im-

proved, but only to their previ-

ous level and the contract was cancelled in 1995 because it was proving too expensive. Edison, which was set up with \$160m over six years, is not yet making a profit. This auject's managers expect it to be profitable as an organisation in

will have 60 to 80 schools. They insist that individual schools are making a profit, but the company has nearly 100

the coming year when they

shuns cool image

WEST END theatre has cocked a snook at the Government's association with the Cool Britannia industries of film and

The first investigation of London theatre shows it holsters the economy with thousands of jobs, millions of pounds of tourist and industry spending, and creates big tax vields. The report, commissioned by the Society of London Theatre, was written by Tony Travers, an academic with the London School of Economics with data compiled by MORL

A spokeswoman said: There has been annoyance in theatreland at the Government's obsession with Cool Britannia. This report shows how economically important West End theatre is. It is also imperative that government invests in regional theatre, which provides the seed-corn talent for the West End." The report shows the economic impact of West End theatre in 1997 was £1,075m, and that 41,000 jobs depend on it. Theatre-goers spent £433m on restaurants, hotels, transport and merchandise last year in addition to £250m on tickets, of which 11.5 million were sold. West End theatre yielded £200m in tax revenues. The report warns the Gov-

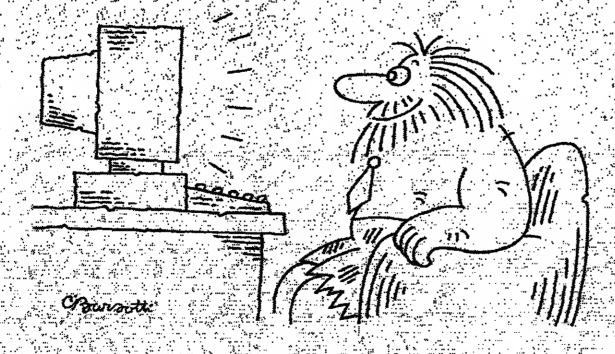
ernment: "Cuts in grants ... to hoth regional and national theatre, opera and dance companies has gone way beyond any possible intentions to cut out waste and drive out inefficiency: the industry is suffering structural damage.

"More writers ... need to be encouraged and enabled to write plays for the theatre, rather than gravitating towards television and film."

The report also contains two messages for West End theatre itself: "In an age of highly packaged sedentary entertainment television, computer games. the Internet - theatre must market its dynamic and fulfilling product more effectively ... There is a need for co-ordinated national and regional audi-

It is also necessary to "clear away the red tape that accompanies investment in commercial theatrical productions and make the tax benefits ... simpler and clearer for the individual. so that more shows will get off the ground and more inrestors will get involved."

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Seizures fail to staunch flood of drugs

CUSTOMS OFFICERS are failing By JASON BENNETTO to stop traffickers swamping Britain with drugs despite record seizures, according to evidence published yesterday by the Government spending

During the past nine years the street price of most drugs has fallen or stayed about the same when inflation is taken into account, suggesting supply has not been dented by the actions of the authorities.

The average number of people sentenced for drug smuggling since 1989 has also slumped from 1,500 a year to just over 1,000.

The National Audit Office, the organisatioo responsible for examining whether public bodies provide value for mooey, concluded that the price trends suggested that Customs and Excise have not restricted the supply of drugs.

The auditors praised customs for aeizing a record amount of drugs in the year up to April 1998 when they nearly doubled their target and confiscated drugs estimated to be worth £3.3bn as well as breaking up 130 smuggling rings. Drug seizures have risen hy about 22 per cent every year for the past nine years.

But this success appears to have had no effect upon the street availability of drugs. Only 10 per cent of drugs are believed to be seized by the au-__thorities.

Analysis of customs' data reveals that in the past nine years synthetic drugs such as Ecstasy and amphetamine have dropped by almost 40 per cent in price after inflation. Cocaine has seen a decline of nearly a fifth, while beroin and herbal cannabis have remained the same. Only cannabis resin

Crime Correspondent

rose in cost by about a third. By contrast alcohol and tobacco have increased by about nearly two-thirds since 1989/90.

Low prices at a time when more people are taking illegal substances almost certainly shows that there is an expanding supply of drugs. The report added that while customs have been successful in jailing traffickers "other organisations may bave stepped

in to make up any shortfall". Chairman of the Commons Public Accounts Committee, David Davis, expressed concern that while seizures were increasing, the number of people successfully prosecuted for drug smuggling had declined by almost one-third since 1980. Part of the reason may be because customs are worried ahout their investigation techniques being revealed in court under new legal rules.

Release, the national drug agency, said: "The amount of drugs getting stopped by the authorities will be in the order of \bar{a} to 15 per cent. From the cost of drugs on the streets it would appear that this is having virtually no impact oo domestic consumption."

A report published last week estimated that the illegal drugs market in Britain is worth up to £8.6bn a year. The Office of National Statistics' figures suggest that drug dealing is the biggest illegal economic activity in the UK. Problem users speot an estimated £2.2hn on drugs in 1996, regular recreational users £1.6bn, of which £1bn went on cannabis, £208m on ampbetamines, £135m on cocaine and

HEROIN

1,747 kg worth £145m 135 per cent increase on 1996. Represents about 8.7 million wraps that give between one and four 'hits'.

COST ANO AVAILABILITY

WHO ARE THE USERS?

Mike Goodman, director of

£125m on Ecstasy Occasional



Increasingly young people. Average age of users is 14-25. Evidence

of new epidemic in

non-metropolitan inner-

city areas and on outly-ing housing estates. Still low level of use – about

2 per cent of population. Mainly used by poor and socially excluded

Reports in cities such as

Bristol say It is easier to

get than cannabis. Mint

dealer/users making it available to users 24

hours - a phone call

away. Popular in £10

bags, enough for a hit.

Becoming more accept-

able among teenage drug users, who regard smoking it as less damaging than injecting.

No. Evidence emerging that more than ever is

comine into Britain.

and Pakistan.

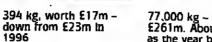
About 80 per cent is

sent from Turkey, and

distributed by London-based gangs, Largely produced in Afghanistan

but becoming more mainstream.







RELENTLESS EXPANSION OF A DEADLY TRADE

77,000 kg ~ worth £261m. About the same as the year before.



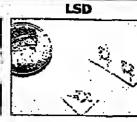
935kg worth £24m up from 840kg the

among young people. particularly on club

scene, used along with other drugs and has

ecstasy market. About

14 per cent of young people say they have tried the drug.



Just 1.860 doses worth only £6.500 - down from 118,000 doses

Sixtles - otherwise

known as old hippies

and raves. Resurgence in popularity among young people.

but also used at parties



2,074kg worth £2m -

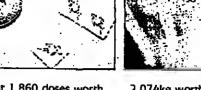
Resurgence in popularity of powder cocaine

among middle classes.

crack cocaine is making

big comeback in inner cities among poor and

Also evidence that



almost twice the amount of year before.

Still popular among people who were first introduced to drug in Mosi popular of all Increasingly common

Still popular on club and dance scene, mainly late teens and 20s. Difficulty drugs. Used by teenagers who often in getting good quality use it along with other substances. Evidence drug has pushed some that very small number are now smoking it with users into alternatives heroin. Many former drug users continue smoking dope as they get older. Most popular drug among middle

Available nationally. Concentrated in metropolitan areas, particularly London, Manchester, and Liverpool, About 8 per Not considered by many as a dangerous drug and therefore happy to use relatively openly. Widely available. £1S for resin. enough for 10-20 joints. cent of young people

Lost some appeal with decline of outdoor raves, Also high-profile deaths. along with poor quality, adulterated supplies.

Containment at best. Drop in popularity has helped, plus police and Customs operations aimed at some of big traffickers. Still large amount being brought In from Europe, particu-larly the Netherlands. A fifth of population has tried it and accounts for 80 per cent of drug use.

Accepted as mainstay of most drug users - also taken in combination with other drugs, Recent rise in popularity of stronger variety known as 'skunk'.

No evidence to suggest any drop in availability. although one of the few drugs where price has risen in past decade, Implying harder to obtain. Much of drug comes from Morocco, West

Indies, and West Africa

East European pharmaceutical factories find speed more profitable than beadache tablets. Also available from the Netherlands. Belgium and UK 'speed has greatly dropped factories', Costs £5 to £10 a gram.

Poor man's cocaine, often used by the lager crowd. Associated with club and dance scene because It provides energy and confidence.

The drop in the cost and rising popularity of speed suggest that the authorities are falling to

halt its importation.

Widely available. Used by about 14 per cent of young people and popular because of low Increasingly available although only about 2 per cent of population have reported using it. Powder cocaine costs cost - £1.50 to £3 for a dose. The strength £50 to £70 for gram -sufficient for up to 20 lines. Crack 'rocks' are about £10 to £20 each. with expense.

Shed some of its 'old Very fashionable - both for celebrities, media and City folk, Crack considered hippie' image and gaining status among younger users because a loser's drug.

Unsure whether less coming into the country, if smugglers are evading Customs or more being made in UK.

beaten and beld to ransom

while relatives to China pay off

the outstanding debt." the po-

lice report states. This criminal

No. Drug is arguably more popular than ever before and price has dropped by about a fifth in past decade.

very attractive to

IN BRIEF

Four lose Hoover flight claim

FOUR CUSTOMERS who failed to travel to America on a free flight as a result of the Hoover promotion vesterday lost compensation claims against the electrical giant. Judge Bennett ruled at St Helens County Court, Merseyside, that the firm had not committed a breach of contract. The four were claiming compensation to the amount of the cost of a ticket to the USA. But the judge ruled that because they had been offered flights on particular days and from particular airports, which they had rejected, their claims should be dismissed.

Court takes the prizes

GLASSWARE prizes were surrendered for legal safekeeping yesterday by Trevor Montague. 44. a chartered accountant, of Crawley, West Sussex, who is being sued hy Channel 4's Fifteen-to-One show. Producers say he won them unfairly after failing to disclose he had appeared on the show before.

Lord Sainsbury

The picture that accompanied our article "Lord Sainshury giving a further £1m to party" in one edition on Monday was of Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover. The article in fact concerned Lord David Sainsbury of Turville.

Triads seek police help in kidnap clashes

THE INFLUX into Britain of By IAN BURRELL nearly 5,000 illegal immigrants from a small parts of eastern China has led to violent clashes with Triad gangs in London's Chinatown.

Police bave recorded a succession of "choppings" and 15 kidnap incidents since the beginning of last year.

Jack Straw, the home secleaders from Chinatown had been to see him. "They were calling for the toughening up of the system hecause it was being abused by Chinese illegal immigrants," he said.

One senior London police officer said: "For the first time we are actually getting co-operabon from the Triads.

The wave of new Chinese immigrants emanates from the Home Affairs Correspondent

townships of Changle and Fuging, on the coast of the Taiwan Strait in the eastern province of Fujian.

A report compiled by the Chinatown Liaison Unit of the Metropolitan Police, shows the Fujianese immigrants follow a retary, revealed this week that well-worn overland path a delegation of community through Russia, the Czech Re-

public and Germany to Holland. The migraots, who pay around £15,000 each to agents known as "snakeheads", are then typically hidden in flower or vegetable lorries en route for ferry-ports on the south east

coast of England. A less-favoured route is across land to Thailand or Malaysia and then by air, usually on stolen Japanese or Ko-

rean passports which are sur- sent asylum requests from rendered to the snakeheads during the flight so that they can be used again.

On arrival in Britain the illegals seek asylum hut refuse to acknowledge their nationality and invariably provide a faise name.

The Met report adds: "Approximately 95 per cent of pre- half that paid to the mainly Can-

mainland Chinese citizens are found to be bogus claims (but) very few citizens are heing returned to China as the embassy will not 'document' them."

Most of the Fujianese take work in restaurants and takeaways, where their typical wage of around £150-a week is

tonese established Chinese. gangs into violent rivalry with But many of the snakeheads the 14K and Wo-Shing-Wo Triads, which have tried to musare not prepared to wait for dehts to be paid off. "It is comcle in on the smuggling rackets. mon place to hear of such persons heing kidnapped and

One London lawyer, Wah-Piow Tan, has 1,000 Fujianese asylum seekers as clients. Last night he called for them to be given a three-year amnesty to pay off their debts before they activity has led the Fujianese were deported to Fujia.

SUDAN

The situation in Sudan is worsening. Hundrads of thousands of innocant people driven from thair nomes by the civil war, now face starvation.

The International Rad Cross is already providing amergancy and But it a now clear that September's harvest will be badly disrupted by the civil war and late rains. The Sudanese ingently seed toots and seeds to salvaga their cropa and feed their children. Only your domation can provide these vital supplies.

Just £25.00 can provide with madical aid, aaeds and tools to make a real difference. Please give as much as you can Your donation will save lives.

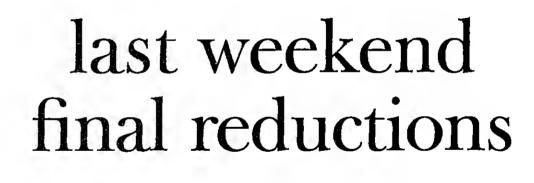


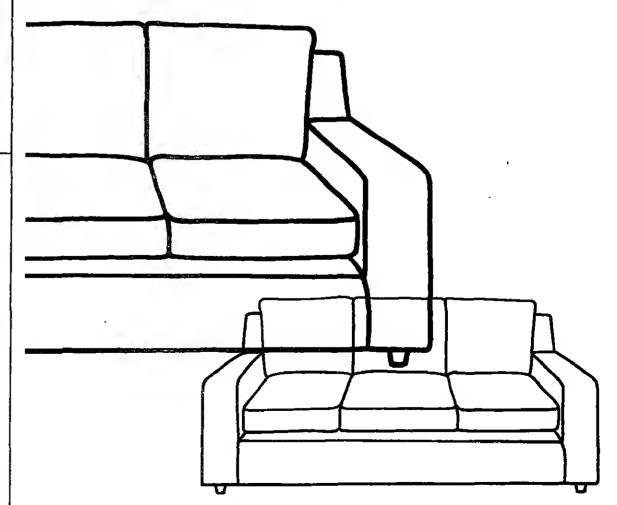
1 enclose a ch	ant to help. ieque/postal order (payable to British Red Cross) for _ £50
Postcode Now please send ROOM 6801, FRE	Tel. Tel. This cruspon with your denation, for THE BRITISH RED CROSS, this cruspon with your denation of EZO or more is worth EPOST, LONDON, SWIX 7BR. "A donation of EZO or more is worth and the text with the property of





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AN EXTRA £19bn – the biggest ever single investment in education - aims to fulfil the Government's pledge to bring down class sizes and to boost student numbers by 500,000.

There will be £2.9bn extra in the first year, £6.6bn in the second and £9.7bn in the third, so that the Prime Minister's promise to spend more of the nation's wealth on education will be honoured.

Employment, said that it was a historic day for education: he had enough money to transform educational standards.

But Don Foster, the Liberal Democrats' education spokesman, said that while Mr Blunkett had done well, the Government had to make up for two years in which teachers had been sacked and class sizes had risen.

The Prime Minister, who promised before the election that his priority would be education, education, education, had also pledged to reduce class sizes for five-, six- and seven-year-olds to a maximum of 30 by 2002. However, that will now be possible by 2001, ministers say.

There will be more money to raise standards of literacy and numeracy and for a new "sure start" programme for underthree-year-olds.

Capital spending on schools will double during the course of this Parliament - more than a million children are still taught

BY JUDITH JUDD AND

BEN RUSSELL

before the First World War. Additional spending over the

next three years will take the proportion of national wealth spent on education up to 5 per cent in 2001-2, compared with 4.9 per cent in 1996-7. Mr Blunkett said: "This is an

David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education and for the country. These additional resources will transform standards in our education service end give everyone the opportunity to realise their full

But David Willetts, the Conservative education spokes-man, said: "For all their [Labour's] bluster, all they are going to do is to get back to where they were when we left

On teachers' pay, Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, insisted that pay review bodies must take account of affordability and the inflation target of 2.5 per cent.

Doug McAvoy, general sec-retary of the National Union of Teachers, hailed the announcement as "an end to the famine of funding" in schools, while Nigel de Gruchy, leader of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union Women Teachers, said that the union was prepared to accept the principle of higher pay in re-

turn for better teaching. But Peter Smith, general

secretary of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, warned: "There must be no more cooking the books over teachers' pay; no more fudging. ducking or spinning over the issue. The Government knows there is a recruitment crisis. What is the point of new classrooms with no teachers?" David Hart, leader of the National Association of Head Teachers, added: "Attempts to place handcuffs on the teachers'

pay review body will not solve the recruitment crisis, which is of monumental proportions." The Government plans to increase student numbers by

500,000 on top of the existing five million in full and parttime study, with most of the ex-pansion in further education

Universities were waiting to discover whether their bid for up to £1bn a year in extra funding had been successful. However, vice-chancellors wel-comed the pledge of £1.1bn extra spending – on top of the £19bn – on scientific research over three years.

Monica Hicks, spokeswoman for the Association of University Teachers, said: "The resources for education have to be welcomed, but the proof of the pudding is in the eating and we will have to see what happens when David Blunkett gives the full details. Investment in higher education will bring dividends in economic success. That's what we will



A seven-year-old pupil at the Richard Austin Butler School in Saffron Walden, Essex

Over-16s benefit linked to study

SCHOOL ALLOWANCE BY GLENDA COOPER

YOUNG PEOPLE will receive an allowance to stay at school beyond 16, in a scheme that could sound the death knell for child benefit for 16 and 17-year-olds. To raise Britain's "appalling" staying-on rates, a new educational maintenance allowance linked to attendance and based on parental income will be piloted for 16 to 18-year-olds.

"If, as we expect, the new educational maintenance allowance succeeds in encouraging young people to stay on in ed ucation, we plan to introduce it nationally, using the money ... spent on child benefit post-16," the Chancellor said yesterday.

Plans to abolish any part of the universal child benefit have met with strong opposition in the past. In the March budget Gordon Brown risked the ire of the middle classes by warning higher rate tax-payers they faced a future tax on the benefit.

Yesterday one Labour MP, interpreting the education maintenance proposal as a plan to pay directly to students money which now goes the mothers of over-16s in full-time education, said it was a "worrying" idea. "It could see money that is now spent on shoes and food. going instead on partying and beer," the MP warned. A DSS spokeswoman said last night it was not yet clear whom the allowance would be paid to. A New Deal to help the young jobless become self-employed will also be launched on Friday, and the Government is introducing Sure Start for the under threes to link childcare, playgroups and post-natal and

Tough new Guaranteed income for elderly rules on PENSIONERS WERE given a 12.5bn boost yesterday from the Chancellor which will guarantee BY GLENDA them a minimum income, and public pay restore the right to free eye

MINISTERS WILL try to secure UNIONS long-term wage deals with leaders of 1.3million public sector workers after the Chancellor of the Exchequer yesterday issued tough new guidelines for their pay review bodies.

As part of the Government's three-year spending plans, the pay review committees will be tied to new disciplines which union leaders argued would critically undermine their independence.

In addition to their responsibility to "recruit, reward and motivate" staff, they will now take into account "affordability"-in other words the spending limits of individual departments.

The bodies, which cover government employees from senior military personnel and top civil servants to nurses and teachers, will have to bear in mind the official inflation target of 2.5 per cent and the government's insistence on "output and efficiency".

From next year the review committees will report to the relevant government departments and the Prime Minister in an attempt to ensure that pay settlements "cannot" be determined without regard to the demands of the service.

st

While every year the Chancellor has submitted his views to the bodies, from next April the Government's policy of financial stringency will be written in to its terms of reference.

Senior union sources said yesterday they will now have to decide whether to pull out of the pay review system, hut it is unclear whether such a decision would improve their members' chances of higher settlements. Left-wingers believe that only a sustained period of industrial action would change the Government's mind.

It is understood that Frank Dobson, Secretary of State for Health, will attempt to reach a three-year pay settlement to match the period of the expenditure plans and that David Blunkett, Education Secretary, will look for a deal to cover the second and third years of the spending review.

The decision to devolve responsibility for setting pay to departments means that secretaries of state will face the

BY BARRIE CLEMENT

ire of employees leaders rather than the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exche-

In the past the Government has ameliorated the impact of increases recommended by the pay bodies by phasing them in, hut the Chancellor hopes to avoid such a device by placing further restrictions on the committees' room for manoeuvre.

Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of public service union Unison, welcomed the "much needed boost" for hospitals and schools. "But we cannot applaud the continuing grudge against public service workers, nor the squeeze on their living standards."

He said workers in health and education would continue to feel "angry and demoralised" that years of austerity were to be extended. He pointed out that pay in the public sector increased by 2.6 per cent this year, compared to 5.6 per cent in the private sector.

In a veiled threat of industrial action, he said: "Unless something is done to close this growing gap, there could be more difficulties ahead than just recruitment and retention.

Christine Hancock leader of the Royal College of Nursing said she was "anxious" about the new rules governing review bodies. However she said the National Health Service would be forced to set reasonable pay rates in order to address chron-

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said schools faced a recruitment crisis of "monumental proportions". He said the Government's education targets would not be met if heads could not recruit and

retain teachers. The Chancellor's intention of continuing to keep a tight grip on public sector pay was both "unjust and unfair", according to John Edmonds general secretary of the GMB general union.

He said that low paid workers were effectively being asked to pay for the Labour party's election pledges.

BY GLENDA COOPER

mum tax guarantee: that no pensioner will pay income tax tests. Help with public transport and fuel bills will also form part unless their income rises above of the package which Gordon a specified level." Mr Brown said. Brown said would "fulfil our Pilot studies are already

duty to the oldest members of under way to find how hest to ensure the estimated one mil-On Friday, the Secretary of lion pensioners not claiming the State for Social Security, Harriincome support to which they et Harman, will announce pro- are entitled get the money. The expectation is that there will be posals which will give every pensioner and pensioner couple an extension of "data matching" a guaranteed income from next between agencies, to identify April. "We will also set a minithe poorest pensioners and en-

sure they are getting the money they are due.

will also be announced by Ms Harman, following promises to pensioners in the Budget. Charges for eye tests will be er to this adequate income fig-

eye-sight tests that they regularly need to preserve sight and protect against disease," said Mr Brown. "So for pensioners, from next April, eye-test charges will be abolished." However, the right to free dental checks has not been restored.

"Pensioners need £150 a week to live on. That is the min-Further help with fuel bills imum price tag on dignity and independence. We are eager to

abolished for the elderly. "It has ure," said Sally Greengross, always been wrong that charges director-general of the charity are levied on pensioners for the Age Concern. "Age Concern welcomes free

free eye tests must be followed up by free treatment if the Chancellor really intends to preserve sight and protect against disease'." she said. Mervyn Kohler, head of pub-

hear how the Chancellor is

going to hring pensioners clos-

sis on older people's needs. Help the Aged is looking for joined-up eye tests for older people hut thinking by government and the devil will be in the detail." growth in social security spending would be "significantly

Mr Brown said that the lower" than the previous Par- of detection, deterrence and liament, because of the num-

lic affairs at the charity Help the

Aged, said pensioners were be-

ginning to get "serious atten-

tion" at last. "However, this

spending review should not be

judged by the goodies in the

headlines," he said. "Its value

will be if it enables spending de-

partments to put fresh empha-

bers moving off benefit into port had fallen below a million. He forecast that spending on benefit would rise from £95bn

in 1998-9 to £108bn in 2001-2. Ms Harman added that the spending review was a "key step" in delivering a modern social security system which would cut out waste. "We are also ensuring the system is secure from fraud and we launched our Green Paper setting out our threefold approach



Next year will see battles over finance raging in Edinburgh

Scottish Office grant up to £15bn

THE £13.8bn a year rising to £15bn allocated to the Scottish Office represents the financial battleground on which next year's elections to the homerule Parliament will be fought.

Donald Dewar yesterday challenged the SNP and other parties to say bow they would distribute Scotland's pot of money. "If they say they want to rearrange it, do they want the 5.000 extra classroom assistants? Do they want the smaller class sizes?" the Secretary of State for Scotland demanded.

In a departure from tradition reflecting the new emphasis that Scottish business should be done north of the border, Mr Dewar announced his departBY STEPHEN GOODWIN

ment's priorities not "on the margins" of Westminster, as he out it, hut in Edinburgh.

Scotland will receive £4bn

more over the next three years - around £800 extra for every man, woman and child. Education and health are the hig gainers, sharing an extra £3bn. The losers are tuition fee paying students, industry support and local authorities, who face having to impose council tax bills of up to 5 per cent.

However the Scottish Parliament, when it begins at the end of 1999, will be free to years ago.

change the Government's spending priorities. Mr Dewar, who is expected to become Scotland's "prime minister" if Labour are the largest party said he believed the disposition of resources was just and re-

flected the needs of Scotland. John Swinney, the SNP Treasury spokesman, said the share-out within Scotland contained "a large element of robhing Peter to pay Paul". He pointed out that despite the vaunted increases, the total budget available to the new Parliament in 2000/01 would be more than £200m down on the money available to Scotland at the peak of Tory spending four

Extra £6bn for homes

AN EXTRA £6bn is to be released to belp tackle homelessness and renovate more than 1.5 million homes, the Chancellor announced yester-

Announcing a number of measures to improve housing stock and availability, Gordon Brown said local authorities would be allowed to use capital receipts from the sale of council houses to tackle the serious backlog of repairs.

Improvements will be possible on an estimated 1.5 million homes over the next three years using £3.6bn from localauthority capital receipts. Around 250,000 with a backlog of problems will benefit from more major repairs.

BY LOUISE JURY

Additional millions are likely to be made available for housing-related projects as nart of a New Deal for Communities aimed at improving neighbourhoods and increasing residents. Under the scheme, housing and regeneration money is to be combined in the most deprived areas "to

not published yesterday. A Housing Inspectorate "with real power to tackle poor management" is to be established under the Audit Com-

achieve improvements that

last". However, details were

mission to examine housing management in every local au-

Council-house tenants are to be given greater say in how their homes are managed and maintained, although rents will increase by 1 per cent in real terms next year and 2 per cent in each of the following two economic opportunities for the years to help fund maintenance. There will be also a new programme for home energy efficiency to help the government to meet environmental ohligations. Chris Holmes, of the Shelter housing charity, said an estimated £20bn was needed to bring existing housing stocks up to satisfactory standards. But the extra money

AN EXTRA £188m is to be made available for the muchtrumpeted strategy of educat-JASON BENNETTO ing today's schoolchildren

eration of drug users. The extra money, which ministers said represented a 25 per cent increase in spending on antidrugs measures, will be used to educate children as young as five on the dangers of drugs. Ann Taylor, Leader of the House of Commons, said the money would enable the Government to "invest in the prevention of drugs problems rather than simply react to them".

against becoming the next gen-

Keith Hellawell, the UK anti-drugs co-ordinator, described the allocation as "a substantial rise in funding" and

BY IAN BURRELL AND

Aid for drugs war

promised that some of the resources would go to drug rehabilitation services, which have warned they are facing a cash crisis.

The added funding will also be used to pay for the new drug treatment testing orders which the Home Office is introdocing to give courts an alternative to custodial sentences.

The total Home Office spend has been increased by 3hn, spread over three years.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, promised quicker and more efficient youth justice savings every year.

and more resources dedicated to helping victims of crime and improving race relations.

But the police have been given a helow-inflation increase, with the threat of having their hudgets cut in the future if they fail to make efficiency savings.

The tough package gives the 43 forces in England and Wales a 2.7 per cent rise next year, followed by increases of 2.8 per cent and 4 per cent in the following years. This will see the total spending rise from about £7.1bn next year to £7.6bn in the year to April 2002. However, some of the money will be withheld after 2000 if forces fail to make 2 per cent efficiency

Health chiefs savour £21bn

HE SAVED the best till last. The £21bn extra for the National Health Service was the final plum the Chancellor pulled out of his pie. And what a plum it

The cash boost, the largest in history according to Gordon Brown, will mean a mouth watering 5.7 per cent increase in real terms for the health service next year, with slightly lower rises in the next two years, averaging 4.7 per cent a year for the rest of the Parliament.

The NHS Confederation, representing bealth authorities and trusts, declared the sum "beyond our wildest dreams". Stephen Thornton, the chief executive, said: "It is spectacular. We were all expecting £10-12bm. It does genely show that this Government is committed to the NHS. The numbers are so hig I am not even saying what I normally say, which is that we have to

watch the small print."
The Royal Chilege of Nursing said the sum offered "one of the most exciting opportunities to revolutionise quality in the history of the NHS". The **British Medical Association** said it was a "significant investment". The only sour note came from the bealth uninns who noted the "continuing grudge against public service workers" and the "squeeze on their living standards".

In cash terms, spending will rise in England by £3bn next year from its current level of £36.5bn to £39.5bn and by a further £3bn to £42.5bn in 2000-01. The rise in the final year of the Parliament will be slightly lower at £2.5bn to just over £45bn, a 3.9 per cent real

derly

) fice

to £15hn

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

increase. All the figures take account of inflation estimated at 2.5 per cent.

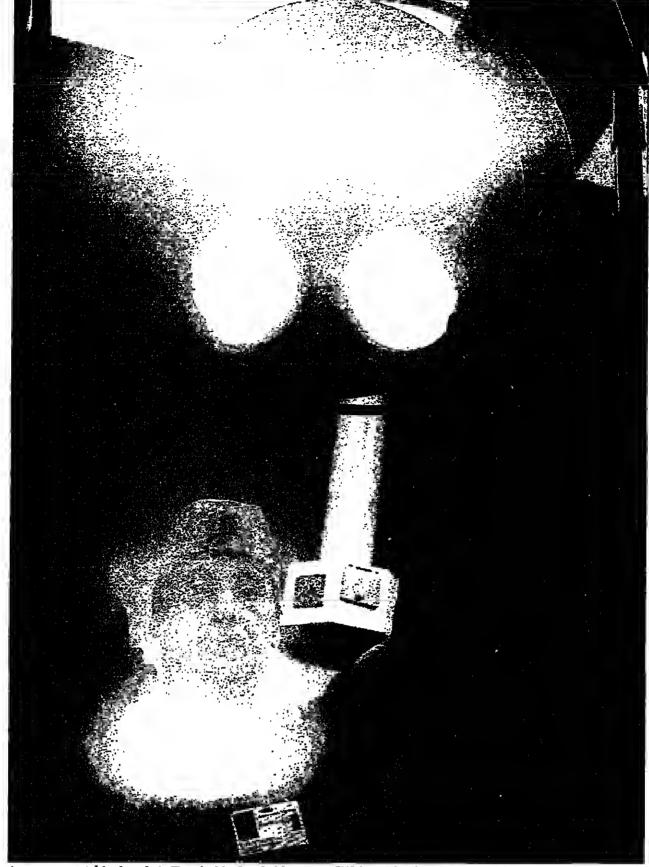
The total for England over the three-year period amounts to just over £17.5bn. An estimated £3hn will be added to NHS budgets in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. These sums mean that over the fiveyear term of the present Parliament the average annual increase for the NHS will be 3.7 per cent in real terms, scotching opposition charges that Labour has been less generous than the last government. Under the Tories, the annual real increase averaged 2.5 per cent during the last parliament.

A jubilant Frank Dohson, the Secretary of State for Health, declared: "The Prime Minister promised that the NHS would get the money it needs. Today the Government

has delivered on that promise." In his speech, the Chancellor said half the beds in NHS hospitals were in accommodation built before the First World War and three-quarters of ward blocks were hand-me-downs. He announced a 50 per cent increase in investment in equipment and buildings, and a £5bn fund for NHS modernisation totalling £8hn over the period.

This includes a 66 per cent boost in the Treasury's contribution, from £1.2bn to almost £2bn over the three years for building new hospitals, but only a small increase in private investment via the unpopular private finance initiative.

Mr Dohson said that the NHS modernisation fund would



A surgeon at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge. The NHS is getting its biggest cash boost ever Brian Harris

be ring-fenced "so that it delivers exactly what we want". An extra £3hn would be invested in social services over the next three years, giving an average annual real increase of

He added: "In both health and social services we are deserve." delivering investment for reform. I shall be setting challenging targets to ensure we get the most out of the money

get the high-quality care they

However, Rabbi Julia Neuberger, chief executive of the King's Fund, the health policy think-tank, warned that the and that patients everywhere efficiency targets must be the political gain."

Government's pledge to reduce waiting lists, she said: "Money in return for modernisation' must not allow the

right ones. Referring to the

health service to fall victim to

City wary of another rise in rates

THE CHANCELLOR is to increase spending by more than £55bn over the next three years. £40bn of this will go to health and education, almost double the amount expected, with the rest being shared between a series of government departments, including the Home Office, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

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The news was warmly received by many MPs and in- though there will be some industry figures. Confederation of British Industry (CBI) said it welcomed the increase in spending on "key priority areas, including education, transport and science." Economists in the City, though, were more cautious, saying the generous increases could push the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) into raising rates again. There has also heen some dispute about the way the Government has presented the figures, with some MPs and economists saying actual levels of public spending will be higher than the Government has claimed.

Despite the larger-than-expected bonanza for education and health, the Chancellor insisted total spending will stay within the expenditure caps set out by the Treasury last month. He told the Commons yesterday: "All the allocations are made within and subject to the overall financial discipline as I set out in the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report 1 published last month."

The Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report (EFSR) capped the real annual increase in government spending - that is, the the annual increase after taking out the effects of inflation - at 2.75 per cent a year over the next three years.

To balance the books, Mr Brown has cut spending on defence, agriculture, and the Cabinet Office, with these departments seeing their bud-gets cut in real terms - that is, excluding the effects of inflation, The Department of Trade and Industry, Foreign Office and the Lord Chancellor's Department have also lost out. The will increases helow the trend growin rate of the economy

Mr Brown has also managed to conjure up more money for health and education hy ingham-based tram system. money to widen new motor- Tuhe system. Steven Norris, a the previous government's cutting back on central government expenditure. The amount that the Government has to lay out on servicing its deht will fall by almost £1bn over the next three years as borrowing levels fall. Indeed. the Treasury calculates that decline in transport investment thanks to the steps the Government has already taken to will be a 25-per-cent increase in cut horrowing - deht interest will be £5hn lower than it would vestment in public transport have been under the Conservative government. These savings in deht interest are being

BY LEA PATERSON

ploughed back into the econo-

Payments to the EU are another area of saving. The Treasurv calculates that these will fall by £0.6bn next year, largely because this year's payment was higher than normal, alcrease in payments to the EU towards the end of the threeyear period.

In total, the Government is to spend more than £1 trillion over the next three years. £351.6bn will be spent in the fiscal year 1999-2000. £359.4bn in 2000-01 and £376.7bn in 2001-2002. Ahout 97 per cent of spending will he current expenditure - that is expenditure needed to finance current demands such as social-security benefits. The remainder - some £32.1 hn - is puhic sector "net investment", which is to go towards improving the economic infrastructure

According to Treasury eshmates, this public-sector net investment will more than double over the next thee years.

The Government has pledged that it will not borrow to finance current expenditure · the so-called "golden rule" of fiscal stability. Current expenditure over the next three years will be financed by taxation - indeed, the Government predicts that tax receipts will exceed current expenditure over the next three years, leaving a current-account surplus which will go towards paying for investment in the economy - so-called "capital expenditure".

The amount of investment the Government intends to make in the economy will also be boosted by money it makes from selling assets such as surplus land and local buildings. In total, the Government hopes proceeds from asset sales will allow it to invest an additional £4hn a year in UK plc.

The Government predicts it will have to borrow 22bn next year to finance its spending, but that its horrowing requirehave to live with real spending ments will be virtually zero in 2000 and 2001.

> The City was caudous about Mr Brown's spending spree. Many economists say the plans amount to a "fiscal loosening" - that is, more generous than was initially expected. There have also been conceros that the Government has understated the true increases in public expenditure by treating part of the Working Families Tax Credit - the replacement for Family Credit - as a tax credit rather than spending. Others have raised concerns about the prudence of relying on falls in so-called "non-controllable" items such as EU payments to boost spending elsewhere.

Boost for buses, railways, roads

GORDON BROWN, the Chancellor, gave voters the first taste of the Government's radical nsport strategy, announcing a £2bn cash boost for the nation's buses, railways and

The figures come a week before John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, unveils his integrated transport white paper, which will detail how the money will be spent.

Over the next three years the

BY RANDEEP RAMESH

for local-transport initiatives designed to "reduce congestion. improve safety and the environment and increase accessihility ... in all parts of the country." Experts point out that a few million pounds could resurrect disused railway lines such as the Ivanhoe branch in Leicestershire or be used for more innovative schemes such as the Midlands Metro - a Birm-

four to five lanes around the Heathrow area.

The motoring lobby was also pleased by an extra £700m for road maintenance. This is likely to include some motorway widening - with the M25, Lon- Friends of the Earth. don's orbital highway, almost certain to be extended from

Environmentalists were quick to question the wisdom of network. The financial model spending more on roads. *Our concero is that John Prescott will continue to use existing devised for London's ailing

ways when he should be spend former Tory transport minister, record of transport spending. It ing it on packages of measures to upgrade the railways," said Roger Higman, spokesman for However, it is unclear how

the money will be spent. Ministers want the funds to be used to entice private companies to invest in the transport favoured by Mr Prescott is the "public-private partnership" he

who now heads the lorry lohhy's Road Haulage Association, questioned how much of the money would he "guaran-

We will have to wait till we see the detailed figures before we start breaking out the champagne. Britain's transport probgenuine increase in spending. not by clever accounting."

Mr Brown was scathing over

had left a legacy of 'years of neglect and under-investment, an over-crowded, under-financed. under-planned and under-maintained transport system. We had a 25-per-cent in the last parliament. There lenis will only be solved by a the next three years for inand meeting our environmen-

World view reverses 18 years of budget cuts FOREIGN OFFICE INTERNATIONAL AID was a vice is to be increased by £44m BY STEVE CRAWSHAW over the next three years. The World Service has often seemed at risk in recent years, recommended by the United and was an easy target for Nations.

clear winner yesterday. Clare Short, the Secretary of State for International Development was able to point to a substanrial annual increase over the next three years, reversing *18 years of decline".

Ms Short has repeatedly emphasised that cash is not the only answer. None the less, she argued yesterday that the new money - an average 8.8 per cent annual increase in real terms - would "help nullions of the poorest in the world work will also be closed. Mr Cook said their way out of poverty".

The increase in spending. from ≌.3hn this year to £3.2bn in 2001, means that development aid will rise from 0.26 to 0.3 per cent of gross national still be below the 0.7 per cent Office-funded BBC World Ser-

At the Foreign Office. Robin

Cook - who has indulged in some scarcely concealed turf battles with Ms Short in the past year - declared himself "very pleased" with the outcome of the spending review for Britain's diplomacy, which will see a realterm increase of 2 per cent over the next three years. Some posts that the Foreign Office "delivers good value at modest cost. It will seize this opportunity to modemise further so it is better placed to take advantage of opportunities for Britain".

The hudget for the Foreign

cuts. But the increase in its hudget can be seen as fitting in with Mr Cook's proclaimed ethical foreign policy. Broadcasting can play a key role in weakening authoritarian regimes; the BBC's reputation is high in countries which have moved from totalitarianism to democracy in recent years.

Elsewhere at the Foreign Office, new investment will be found partly by an "asset-recycling agreement" - wherehv £90m saved by selling property abroad goes back into the department's private pot, rather than into a central Treasurypansion will include the European Union and applicant countries to Nato, the Caspian region, China and Brazil.

In Tashkent, in the central Asian republic of Uzbekistan, for example. France has 17 diplomats. Germany has 26 - and Britain has two. The British hunger for commercial contracts means an almost certain increase. Talk of co-operation between EU countries in the region, in order to reduce the number of diplomats and missions, has been shelved.

As at the Department for Interoational Development, the increase in Foreign Office spending represents a clear reversal of the previous trend. In the past five years alone. there have been cuts of 14 per administered pool. Areas of ex-cent at the Foreign Office.

Arts fund has strings attached

THE ARTS - and museums in particular - will benefit from the Culture Department's S.7 per cent rise in spending over the ngat three years.

The £290m boost will, as revealed in The Independent, go partly towards increasing access to museums and galleries. This is understood to mean extending free admission to national museums, though Chris Smith, Secretary of State for Culture, will spell out the details on Friday week.

But the new money for both museums and the performing arts will come with strings, Mr Smith said yesterday. "The new investment places a clear responsibility on funding bodies for agreed improvements in efficiency, access and private

sector sponsorship. It is a new contract with the ts. The aim is reform for the benefit of the many, not just the few. There will be extra money to give more people easier access to the opportunities provided by our museums and galleries and to a new artistic

So while Mr Smith is promising new investment for museums and galleries and helping to put performing arts companies on a sound financial basis

BY DAVID LISTER

so that they can attract new audiences, there will clearly be a quid pro quo with arts organisations proving that they are efficient and are attracting husiness sponsorship.

Nevertheless early reactions from the arts world were positive, with praise for Mr Smith for having persuaded the Treasury to give new money after a vear of cutbacks.

The stress on efficiency will also be seen as a warning for the Royal Opera House which will not be receiving any increase in funding until it shows it has put its house in order.

The news of more money for museums and galleries was welcomed by the National Art Collections Fund, one of the bodies that, along with The Independent, has campaigned

for free admission. David Barrie, director of the fund, said: "This sounds like a breakthrough Concerted campaigning has paid dividends." Mr Smith said his targets, to

be delivered by the end of the Parliament, included "harnessing the educational potential of institutions funded by his department



access with lower admission charges

£1bn for science in public, private scheme

SCIENCE SCIENCE AND engineering By CHARLES ARTHUR will receive £1.1hn in funding under the Comprehensive Spending Review to 2002.

entific research.

£600m - funded equally by the Government and the Wellcome though only \$700m of that is Trust - will go to huild and recoming from public spending. furbish university laboratories. The other £400m is being doan area which was picked out nated by the Wellcome Trust. by the pressure group Save pitch in may mean that the UK's higgest funder of sci-British Science (SBS) as es. Britain's public research sci-Of the money allocated, sential two years ago. Then, critists once again have the fa-

the minimum standard required to keep pace with academia in other countries. While the government has not found the whole sum, its ability to persuade the Wellcome Trust to

SBS said that £500m was need-cilities they so badly need. The chotron X-ray machine, to try that our predecessors allowed, ed to bring laboratories up to Research Councils will receive to keep the UK in the race to de-£400m to meet current and ticularly the life sciences. hiotechnology hecomes an everyday topic.

Finally, the Wellcome Trust is putting £100m towards a syn-funds reverses [past] decline

code and understand the funccapital costs for new project hion of all the genes in our funding in "priority" areas par- DNA - the "Human Genome Project" (HGP). The Wellcome where business is hooming as Trust has already made sizeable pledges to the British HGP campus near Cambridge.

"This major injection of

ensuring that we have a modern and effective science hase for the new millennium," said Margaret Beckett, president of the Board of Trade. "In the life sciences, the UK is a world leader."

The question will be whether this funding will be enough to

Chancellor in driving seat but end of the road for Prudence

Commons, yesterday, with his speed that it was hard to keep up. much trailed statement on public Prudence, who normally rides in expenditure. A hushed and expectant Labour party and nervous Conservatives fastened their seatbelts for the drive of their life.

Dark and bunched, Mr Brown slipped effortlessly and automatically into the "drive" position. Foot firmly on the accelerator of public expenditure be wasted no time in pulling straight out into the fast lane, without even bothering to check the rear view mirror

Within seconds his deep baritone

the passenger seat, giving him directions, had been banished to the rear but was not allowed to do any back-seat driving.

He is tiring of ber and yesterday she was raped and then replaced by a more alluring mistress called adoringly by his side; he stroked her knee throughout the journey.

By the time the Chancellor had party stalwarts in the eye. got to the first big spend - éducation - be was hitting the speed limit.

THE CHANCELLOR of the Ex-months early. Words were punched "For the next three years I can anchequer arrived at the House of out with so much emphasis and nounce additional education spending of £19billion." Labour backbenchers roared as they suddenly realised that it was okay and

"cool" to be old Labour again. After the years of having to out-Tory the Tories they were finally rewarded with a party. Never mind New Labour and champagne. This was an afternoon where they could "public expenditure" who rode allow themselves to down good old fashioned foaming pints of beer in their Labour clubs and look old

Mr Brown announced cumulative increases for each of the next voice had got him from 0-70mph and Prudence was getting extremely three years. He had an election we were cruising to Christmas six nervous and wanted to be let out. bribe of £10bn for the year 2001

THE SKETCH



BROWN alone. "This is what we mean by education, education, education." Yes,

Gordon: Otherwise known as spend, spend, spend.

out figures with his other fist hit turned to the National Health Serting the table rather like a Methodist preacher might hammer away in the pulpit.

legal limit as he opened the arm rest between the seats and found Labour members went berserk. a little package marked local authority capital receipts". These had been left lying around by the last owner, the Tory government, and were worth £3.6bn for renovating one and a half million homes.

Out of the glove compartment he found even more goodies to please Labour backbenchers. Free eye tests for pensioners; from next Prudence woke up but as the ve-April every pensioner will have a hicke came to a halt she shot for-

vice he was doing over 100 mph and was still accelerating. "For the coming three years I am an-The speedometer overshot the nouncing an increase in Health Service funding of a total of £21billion."

slumped on the back seat. Tories saw the vehicle coming towards them and tried to jump out of the Suddenly he screeched to a halt. "As a result of prudence... £40bn will be invested in the nation's priori-

ties." At the mention of her name

lectern of two hansards he punched minimum income guarantee. As he ward because she had not been wearing ber safety belt. She sustained dreadful injuries and may never be heard of again. Labour backbenchers roared, cheered and

jumped up and down - they had never really liked Prudence. In the mayhem, a rickety police car driven by the shadow Chancellor, Francis Maude, tried in vain to keep up and desperately wanted to arrest Mr Brown for speed-

under the influence of old Labour PC Maude did not catch the Chancellor yesterday for the death of Prudence but his day will come. That day will be either a stock market crash or an economic recession.

ing, reckless driving and being

Brown puts his trust in stable growth

GORDON BROWN was cheered by Labour backbenchers yesterday as he unveiled a cash injection of £40bn over the next Comprehensive Spending Rethree years for education and health. Education will receive an extra £19bn, with £21bn set aside for health - the biggest investment in the National Health Service, he told MPs.

The Chancellor began his Comprehensive Spending Review statement by telling the House of Commons that the Government's central objectives were stable levels of growth and employment, and sustainable public services.

Public borrowing had been cut by £20hn, through fiscal tightening, which would continue into next year. "And to meet our fiscal rules and in line with cautious and published assumptions ... we plan current surpluses for the next three years of £7bn, £10bn and £13bn," he told MPs.

Deht as a proportion of national income would fall below By the end of this Parliament, debt interest payments will be simply left borrowing at the forms" changes to legal aid, next three years."

"the growth in social security spending for this Parliament will be significantly lower than in the last Parliament", Mr Brown said the spending review "has examined the most effective use of public money across and within each department." "The first innovation of the BY DAISY SAMPSON

view is to move from the shorttermism of the annual cycle and to draw up public expenditure plans not on a one-year basis but on a three-year basis," be said. The Government would seek "new standards of efficiency to ensure that every penny is well spent".

Mr Brown said each department has reached a "public service agreement" with the Treasury - "effectively a contract ... for the renewal of

The money would be released to spending departments only if they kept to their agreed plans for reform and modernisation he said, adding that the new system would be overseen by a Cabinet committee. "More resources will go direct to front-line services", such as patient care, classroom teaching and fighting 40 per cent be said promising: crime, the Chancellor said as a

result of his changes. Mr Brown told MPs to ex-Assuring the House that efft, youth justice and the withdrawal of unjustified subsidies.

He said central and local government had agreed a programme for the release of £11bn in assets no longer needed for investment in health, education, transport and other essential services. "By securwill secure more money for what we value."

As a result, services for asyhim seekers would be managed by one department rather than five and the three departments responsible for criminal justice would work together to "one set of objectives".

Mr Brown said: "Our prudence has been for a purpose. It is because we gave set tough efficiency targets ... that our top priorities - health and education will receive more new money than the other 19 government departments combines,"

Declaring this is "what we mean by education, education, education", be announced additional spending of £19bn over the next three years on schools. The Government would spend £3bn more in 1999, £6bn more in 2000 and £10bn more in 2001. That would lead to a 500,000 expansion in numbers of students in higher and further education.

On public transport, Mr Brown said there would be a £2bn boost. "From a 25 per cent decline in transport investment in the last Parliament, there will £5bn a year lower than if we had pect, among other "radical re- be a 25 per cent increase in the

> by the Deputy Prime Minister. John Prescott, in the transport White Paper, be told the House.

Mr Brown set out a series of measures to help huild "safer and stronger communities". There would be more investment for crime prevention and moves to tackle the underlying ing greater value for money we causes of poverty, with a 25 per

Gordon Brown, flanked by David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education (left) and the Prime Minister, Tony Blair, addresses the Commons cent increase in funding on

He also said an extra £3.60n would be released from local authority capital receipts to belp tackle homelessness and to renovate 1.5 million bomes. Moving on to welfare policy, Mr Brown said: "For our most

tackling drug-abuse.

lems are not just poor housing economic opportunity. Consequently, a total of £800m would be allocated to the New Deal for Communities, along with a new deal to help the young unemployed to be-

come self-employed. Of the more popular proposals were plans for the elderly including the abolition of tional income - the figure to long-term planning. Hospi- 2.5 per cent a year in the last nation's priorities."

eye test charges for pensioners from next April. There would also be help with transport for the elderly in the transport White Paper.

Harman, Secretary of State for Social Security, would an-nounce plans later this week for deprived estates the key prob- help with pensioners' fuel bills. From next April, every pen-

guarantee," be said. The Government would set aside £2.5bn for this programme.

Service are to be raised by £44m over the next three years. Britain's overseas aid is to increase from 0.25 per cent of nainherited from the Tories - to 0.3 per cent this Parliament. Turning to the most specu-

lated area of his speech - health . the Chancellor said: The Mr Brown said that Harriet NHS is epropassion in action, what its founder, Aneurin Bevan, rightly called the most civilised achievement of mod- ment will now make the biggest ern government"

Promising that the NHS would never be left to the hazwill have a minimum income ards of private or charitable sources it needs," Mr Brown provision under a Labour government. Mr Brown said that crease in NHS funding of £21bn tomorrow Frank Dobson, Sec- over the next three years - com-Funds for the BBC World retary of State for Health, would announce targets to tackle inefficiencies in hospitals. to simplify management structures and give a new emphasis

tals would be required to publish league tables measuring per cent next year and by 4.5 the successivates of their treat. per cent the year after, he said, ments, and fibn will be cut adding. We will meet our waitfrom red tape and put into pa- ing list pledge as promised."

tient care: "So, on the 50th anniversary of the NHS, this governever investment in its future, giving the NHS for the first time said. He announced a total inpared with an increase of £7bn during the last three years of

the Tory government.

Parliament, it would rise by 5.7

Every hospital would benefit from the 50 per cent increase in investment in equipment and buildings and the £5bn fund for NHS modernisation - the largest hospital building and modernihad seen.

"As we start its next 50 years, the NHS is safe in this government's hands." Mr Brown said. "This government has made . the choices necessary to deliver stable and sustamable pub-While health department lic finances. We have been spending rose by an average of steadfast in our priorities - the

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BARCLAYS	£10,000	15.9%	£236.00	£14,280,00
	216,000	Not at	aliable	
-	£4,000	16.9%	C94,68	05.900.23
LLOYDS	£10,000	12.6%	£227.95	£12,677,00
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	44,000	16.3%	£95.57	45,734.20
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Maude attacks 'dodges' and warns of slide towards recession

CONSERVATIVES ACCUSED Gordon Brown of indulging in "fiddles" and "fudge" to make his comprehensive spending review look more generous than it really was.

Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, claimed that Gordon Brown had failed to get a grip on public spending and fallen back on tax rises, with a typical family having to pay a £1,000 more a year.

"This is not a comprehensive spending review, it's a comprehensive spending failure. The Chancellor risks spending us into recession," he told the House.

Challenging the Chancellor, Mr Maude said that the £5bn a year cost of the working family tax credit was being taken out of the public spending figures and that a further £1hn a year for welfare-to-work had been

CHANCELLOR'S SPEECH BY DAISY SAMPSON

taken out of benefits spending. "Aren't these the sort of accounting dodges we last saw from the Paymaster General's old crony Robert Maxwell?" Mr Maude asked.

Labour could not control oublic spending, he said. "A government without principles can't take hard decisions and is pushed around by every crony in every spending lobby." Mr Maude said that every

forms had actually cost money. not saved it. "That's why, despite what you say, your own figures show that social security spending by the last year sbown in the book

[the Budget red hook] is going

THE HOUSE

achievable although they had

heen set a "tight, taut"

one of Labour's welfare re-

to be up by over 20 per cent over

The Shadow Chancellor said Mr Brown should admit that spending would really increase by much more than 3 per cent

While welcoming the extra money on health and education he said: "Under Labour the economy is already faltering. And because you have failed to reform welfare, you are paying for the increase in spending, by raising taxes.

Mr Maude asked the Chancellor: "Will you tell the House, how much of the extra money on health is going to be spent simply on pensioners forced off health insurance by your vindictive attack?

How much of the extra on education will be spent on pupils forced off the assisted places scheme?



This is a comprehensive spending failure': Francis Maude (right), with William Hague

on education will only be 0.1 per cent of national income more than we actually delivered?" Claiming that Mr Brown had

"And will you admit that at the deficits, increased the nation end of four years, your spending al debt and encouraged the state to spend "ever more", Mr Maude told MPs: "In just a few short months the three central pillars of the myth of the Iron introduced permanent budget Chancellor have rusted away."

Defence cuts

THE CHIEF of Defence Staff was sufficiently concerned about the level of cuts being imposed on the Defence budget that be raised it personally with Tony Blair, it was disclosed

yesterday. General Sir Charles Guthrie confirmed he bad discussed the 3 per cent efficiency savings demanded under the Strategic Defence Review at a meeting with

Prime Minister. "I told him that I thought the 3 per cent efficiency savings were a challenging target." Sir Charles said.

Today

In the Commons: Work and prospects of the British Council; Preparations for Buenos Aires conference on climate change; UK art market; Train services for Northampton, Maritime safety in the fishing industry; Northern Ireland questions; Questions to the Prime Min-Sir Charles, giving eviister, School Standards Bill. dence to the Commons De-Lords amendments: Investifence Select Committee, said gation of death of Edgar Ferhe believed the savings - that nandes in Turkey. will see £685m wiped off the In the Lords: Government Defence hudget - were

of Wales Bill, third reading; Debate on management of the New Forest (Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, C)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Help for tenants FUNDING FOR supported

accommodation will be extended by 12 months, Harriet Harman, Secretary of State for Social Security, told Jim Fitzpatrick (Lab, Poplar and Canning Town). The scheme would ensure financial security for tenants who relied on housing beoefit to pay for support services.

Fewer police

THE NUMBER of police officers in England and Wales has fallen by 214

since March 1997, Ahm Michael. Home Office minister, said in answer to Gillian Merron (Lab. Lincoln). There are 126,944 officers, including 98,387 constables - up 255.

Moscow revamp

THE FOREIGN OFFICE is to spend £48.7m on its facilities in Russia, Tony Lloyd, Foreign Office minister, told Norman Baker (Lib Dem, Lewes). That included £17.9m on new Moscow offices.



Serial killer's book contract seized

THE PRISON SERVICE was last By LAN BURRELL night talking with its legal advisers to try and prevent the serial killer Dennis Nilseo from

publishing his autobiography. Senior officials took action after prison officers seized a draft contract that had been posted to the mass murderer at Whitemoor prison io Cambridgeshire. The Prison Service was already investigating how a copy of the 453-page manuscript was smuggled out of the top-security jail.

Jack Straw, the Home Sec-

Home Affairs Correspondent

retary, has been determined to prevent criminals profiting from books about their crimes since the outcry over payment to Mary Bell - who killed two children when she herself was a child - for her cooperation oo a book about ber life by the distinguished author, Gitta Sereny.

A Prison Service spokesman said: "We are consulting with counsel as to whether there is

ported to be worth £100,000. was confiscated by the prison staff because it was deemed to be a breach of prison service standing orders which prevent inmates from profiting from their crimes. The book, provisionally titled Waiting for the any contract." Man, is being edited by the gay author Peter Paul Hartnett a former teacher whose previous

work includes the novels Call Me and I Want to Fuck You. Mr Harnett's publicist Su-

a means of preventing publizanne Martin, based in Soho, reportedly states that he killed cation." The draft contract - re- central London, said yesterday that she had no idea how her company's name came to be on the draft contract seized at the jail "We are aware of Hartnett's collaboration with Dennis Nilsen on his memoirs, but we are not - nor will we be - issuing

> Nilsen, 51, is serving life for the murder of up to 15 young men whom he picked up in bars and lured to his flat in Muswell Hill north London.

In the manuscript, the killer

in order to use the corpses as props for his fantasies. "I pretended it was me heing cared for, and at the same time I was also the carer looking after them," he writes.

He also tells how he chopped up the bodies on a wooden board over his bath while drunk on rum hefore putting the re-

mains in hin bags.
"When recalling what I had to go through, the reader will think it odd that I can't stand the sight of blood," writes Nilsen.

Nilsen, who has been told he about their crimes, it acknowlwill never be released, is anxious that he is not forgotten. He has been allowed to set up a recording studio in his cell, and hopes his music will be made available to the public. The serial killer, who has be-prison in Leicestershire. friended penal reformers such

controversy by giving an interview on his crimes from prison for a television documentary. While the prison service is

edges that penning an autohiography can be a useful form of therapy. Many jails now have writers in residence, such as the feminist author Sara Maitland, who is based at Ashwell

Other high-profile inmates who have tried to get their stoas Lord Longford, also caused ries published include Moors murderer Myra Hindley and Charles Bronson, who took the Hollywood star's name, writes determined to prevent prison-poetry, and styles himself Briters making money from writing ain's most dangerous prisoner.



Even our peas are depressed by the rain

BRITAIN'S FARMERS said yes- BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE terday they had been hard hit by the recent had weather which had damaged crops and

made harvesting difficult Floods have reduced fruit and vegetable supplies and pea producers said yields were down because of the weather.

"It has to have been one of the worst starts to the summer that we have seen for a decade," said David Brown, chief horticultural advisor to the National Farmers Union.

"The wet and damp weather and the lack of sunshine has not belped one little bit. Soft fruits, salad producers, peas and brassica have all suffered. "Different farmers have beeo hit in different ways. But

it is fair to say that no one has heen helped." He said salad producers suffered further damage because people had oo appetite for their produce while the climate is so

Mr Brown added: "The last

two weeks should have been very good hut the demand has simply not been there.

The only possible silver lining is that in August when people tend not to bother buying tomatoes because they have grown their own, they will be forced to this time because their own crops have failed."

Yesterday the food and finance company, the Albert Fisher Group Pic, announced a shortfall in profits for the first half of 1998 and said one of the reasons was a 25 per cent reduction in its pea harvest.

"We estimated a crop of around 32,000 tonnes hut have seen that fall by a quarter," said a spokesman for the company, whose pea-growing operation is centred on Lincolnshire and East Anglia.

"It's been wet, it bas been damp and there has been no sun. The peas have not been as prolific as we had hoped,"



A spokesman for the Processed Vegetable Growers was industry-wide and that some growers may suffer more

than a 25 per cent shortfall. "Peas hate the wet and love the sun. At the moment they

- 2

they have wet feet," he said. "There's not much growers Association said the problem can do about it except harvest whatever crop they are left

In the West Country, pickyour-own farmers have also felt the pain, partly because have seen very little sun and there have been fewer tourists

as a result of the gloomy weather. Although strawberries have been largely unaffected there is a danger they could rot if they

are left too long. "We've had to employ 20 more people than normal to help pick the fruit," said Jan Butterley, manager of the

Nynebead fruit farm near Wellington, Somerset.

"The rain helps the weeds grow and the mud has made the paths a disaster. We've put down bales of hay on top of the mud so at least people can

Forecasts for today suggest

a mixture of sunny spells and showers for most of the coun-

try with south Wales and the South-west turning wet by this evening. The outlook for tomorrow

and Friday suggests cool, changing weather with sunny



man's

THE GIRLFRIEND of a man who claims he suffered from schizophrenia after being put in trance by the bypnotist Paul McKenna wept as she told the High Court in London of the "terrible" times they went

trauma'

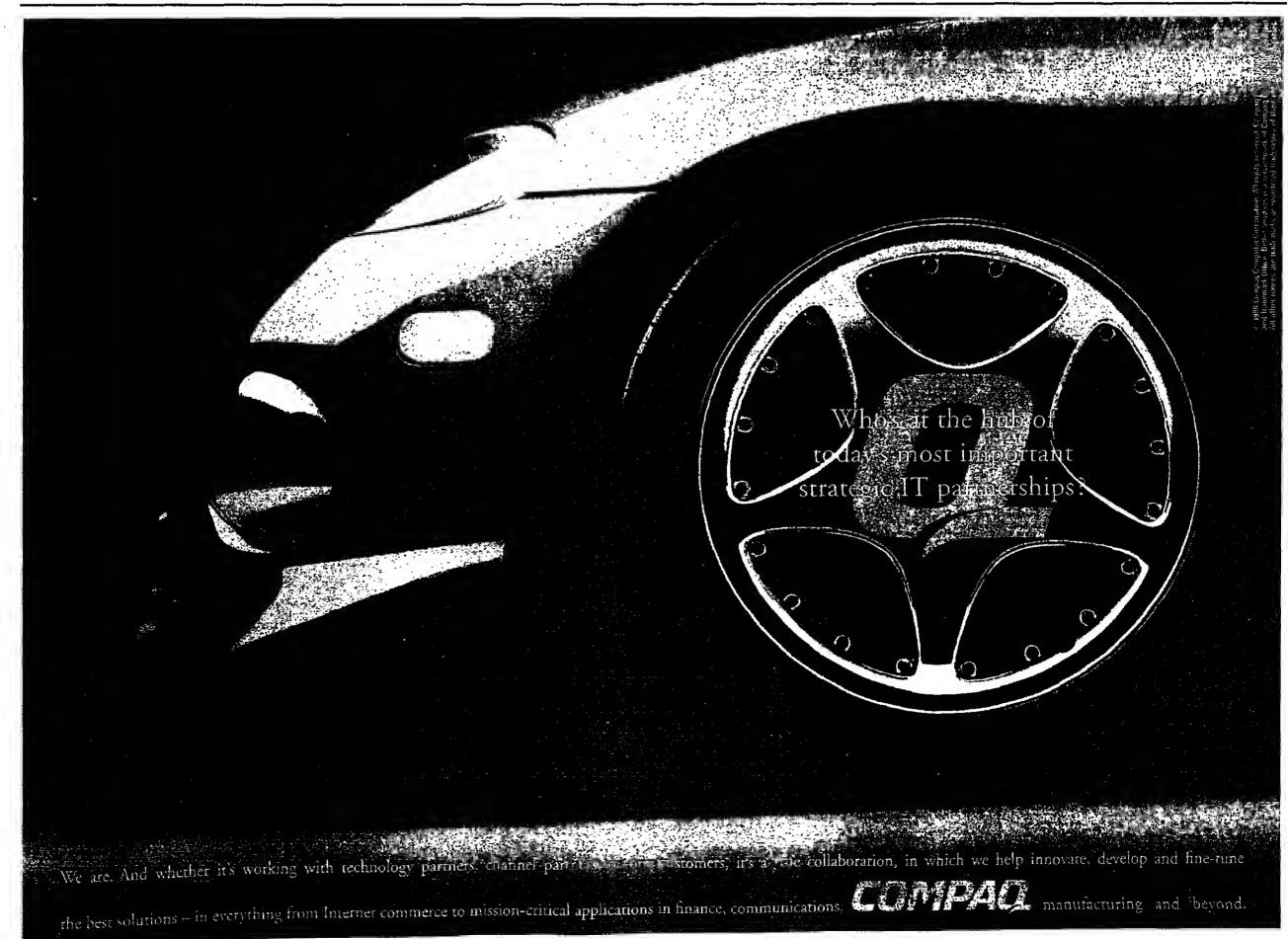
through during his illness. Beverley Gibbs said that Christopher Gates had heen afraid to go upstairs because he believed God was always watching him and he was being told off for bad things he had done.

She was giving evidence in Mr Gates' £200,000 damages action against Mr McKenna for psychiatric injuries he claims to have suffered after heing hypnotised at the Swan Theatre in High Wycombe, Bucks, four years ago.

Nine days after the show, Mr Gates, a furniture polisher, of Downley, High Wycombe, was admitted to hospital as an inpatient suffering from an acute schizophrenic episode, His mental problems continued and he is unemployed.

Mr McKenna, from Kensington, denies oegligence and contends Mr Gates' illness was not caused by hypnosis.

The hearing continues today.



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Hague launches the Tory chat show







Mr Hague in perpetual motion yesterday, at a shadow-cabinet meeting (left), at the launch of the 'listening' drive (centre), and being grilled by schoolboys John Voos

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BY JACK O'SULLIVAN

EXPLAIN TO me why we're here," one of William Hague's press officials whispered to one of his colleagues. "It's a press conference launching our Listening to Britain campaign," he answered.

"But why here?" asked the first official, surveying the flashy Imagination Gallery in central London. "Why not Central Office?" The reply came: Because we want to show people we've got imagination."

Which is why Mr Hague yesterday announced a year-long consultation with voters, from a lectern flanked by two hlack Christmas trees. "They're from the same florist as supplied flowers for Four Weddings and a Funeral and Elton John's 50th birthday party," boasted the gallery. It wasn't clear whether the Tory leader, with his deputy, Peter Lilley, spotted the trees as he swept into the gallery to a drumbeat composed by the party's IT department. But a man who was recently hospitalised with sinusitis was clearly delighted with the show.

A raft of former Cabinet ministers, Gillian Shephard, John Redwood and John Maples among them, had turned out to support his contention that the Tories are no longer élitists huried in Central Office but the listening party. A hillboard with pictures of ordinary folk said in the style of a recruitment poster. "SPEAK OUT".

Mr Hague promised 150 meetings across the country in the coming year in which ordinary people would have their say. But I had a query. Weren't those happy faces on the bill-board party workers? "Ah," said Lord Parkinson, party chairman, grinning sheepishly. "TI say no more than that I may have seen one or two before."

Nevertheless, Mr Hague was dearly taken with meeting real people. "Listening to Britain has already been tried out," he declared triumphantly, like a great inventor.

He was referring to his earlier breakfast in his offices with 20 NHS staff. That was after he had already done five radio interviews, having risen at 6.15am. The NHS guests had come to tell him their woes, over croissants and coffee, and offer hints on how to run the health service better. "We want to speak to the people we feel we alienated last time around," said Alan Duncan, the party's was hard to fault the logic.

health spokesman. "These people are absolutely non-partisan. We don't know what they think "

For an hour, they talked of low morale, the impossibility of bringing down waiting-lists and of the tricks being used to cut the figures. You had to pinch yourself to remember that the Tories are no longer in government and want to be their cheerleaders. "We're just playing a game over waiting lists"

said one manager. Mr Hague sat silently, letting Mr Duncan mine them for information. "What about the Millennium Bug?" he asked. "At least it will make the waiting lists disappear." said one. Everyone laughed.

But William Hague is not a big joker. "He doesn't turn heads," said one guest, a clinical nursing specialist. "He's too nice, too gentle." Though a Tory voter, she couldn't see him as prime minister. "Not enough charisma," she said.

A nursing student, also a Conservative voter, agreed, "By the time the Tories get back in, he'li have been hlown away." But one of the GPs was impressed. "Oh yes, he would definitely make a prime minister. He's much more relaxed than on television." And how did sbe vote? "I shilly-shally, but I suppose I'm a Conservative."

Three out of three Tory voters ... perhaps the big test for this first day of "Listening to Britain" would be the lower sixth-formers at Langley Park School for Boys in Beckenham, south London. The boys have half an hour with Mr Hague before he has to rush back to the Commons for Gordon Brown's spending statement.

fa

"What do you think of tuition fees?" asks Andrew Lansley, party vice-chairman, as the leader looks on. "I don't agree with it, but it's for you to solve, not us," says one boy. "I think we owe everyone a

certain standard of living." says another "Mmm uh huh," says the listening leader, hiting his lip. Things are hotting up. What would you like to say to the Leader of the Opposition, your next prime minister? Ha ha, at least that's the aim." says

Matthew Jefferies, 17, a vicar's son, raises his hand: 'It seems to me you are looking for solutions to help you back into power. It's very valuable infor-mation. So if I did know, I probably wouldn't tell you, to be honest." Everyone laughed. It

Minder shook baby 'as hard as possible'

BY DIANA BLAMIRES

A BABY DIED after being shaken "backwards and forwards as hard as possible", a jury heard yesterday. Five-month-old Joseph Mackin died due to a "deep brain injury" after being subjected to considerable violence, pathologist, Dr Nat Cary, told Norwich Crown Court. The baby's childminder, Helen Stacey, 41, of North Walsham, Norfolk, denies murdering him at her home in May last year.

Dr Cary, a Home Office pathologist based at Papworth Hos-pital, Cambridge, told the jury that Joseph had suffered "quite extensive" hleeding to his hrain. The injuries could not have been accidentally caused by another child. Post mortem tests also revealed bruising in muscles around Joseph's neck.

"Death in this circumstance was the direct consequence of a head injury," said Dr Cary. This was not just a small bleed to the brain, this was quite extensive. Force of this kind ... may be seen in relation to a road traffic accident, or falls from considerable beights.

"It is a classical injury of the kind seen in what is called 'shaken infant syndrome'. It arises from very violent shaking and the head rocks backwards and forwards.... It may have been caused by impact with a cushioned surface... To put it in context, you may shake somebody to wake them up. This is way in excess of that. It is basically picking up an infant and shaking it backwards and forwards as hard as you possibly can. It is that nort of least of force that is required ... sustained shaking "

Joseph's parents, Anthony and Corinne Mackin, told the court on Monday that Joseph was healthy and happy when he was dropped off at Stacey's house on the morning of 13 May



last year. Mr Mackin said that when he collected Joseph late that afternoon it was obvious that the baby was extremely ill. Joseph was declared dead about an hour later. The court was told that Sta-

cey, a registered childminder who had been caring for Joseph and his sister Samantha, now three, for four days, said that the baby had been unwell all day. But the jury was told she had failed to contact Mrs or Mr. Mackin, who also live in North Walsham, or to call a doctor.

A second pathologist, who examined Joseph's eyes, agreed with Dr Cary's analysis. Michael Green, Professor of For easic Pathology at the University of Leeds, said there was bleeding in the retinas of Joseph's eyes which was normally associated with shaking injuries. He added: "Bleeding on the front of the retina and into the front of the retina is classically associated with __ shaken baby syndrome'. The signs of sickness straight away. He would have gone floppy. His cries would have changed His eyes would have rolled and so on." He thought the injury would probably have happened shortly before the baby's death.

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A winning formula

it show



Leeds University fine art degree students on Clayton heach in the hoax which won them a joint first

Students' hoax praised in the highest degree

WHEN STUDENTS faked a bol- BY CLARE GARNER iday to Spain and called it art, it was considered by some to be little more than a carefully executed prank. But the only opinion that counted - that of their examiners - has ruled that it was first class art.

The 13 third-year fine art students from Leeds University have been awarded a joint first for their bluff and double-bluff end-of-term project which suc-cessfully tricked tutors, critics and the media alike.

in the eyes of Terry Atkinson, their tutor and examiner, the hoax holiday merited the highest grade. "It was original, it asked questions about art educatioo and art itself, and shows a lot of awareness of the historical problems of art practice," he said. "The administration and managing of the project was astounding.

is May the students insited their tutors to the opening of their exhibition, Going Places.

themselves herded onto a coach and driveo to Leeds-Bradford airport, where the studeots were strolling through Customs. They said they had speot the project's £1,800 sponsorship mooey on a week of sunshine and nightlife in the Costa del Sol. Their purpose. they claimed, was to challenge the bouodaries of art.

Following an outcry, the students said they had not been to Spain but had been hiding at home all week, getting tanned oo a sun lounger and taking their "Estrepona" boliday snaps in Cayton Sands, near Scarborough. The airport authorities colluded with them, eveo putting a fake announcement oo the flight arrivals board. The students' purpose was - once again - to "challenge people's perneption of art...

Mr Atkinson insisted that the extensive publicity for Leeds University had nothing to do

with the final mark. "I think it was mainly aimed internally. What they mainly wanted to do was ask questions of the department. They thought they might get some media coverage but it excelled their wildest dreams. That brought a new di-

mensioo. But David Lee, editor of Art Review, said: "The motto would seem to be to generate column inches and get awarded a first. The trouble these days is most people confuse the ability to create a rumpus with

the ability to create good work." Mr Lee said Going Places was a product of the "Stalinistic artists' union' operating in this country. The most impor-tant and insidious thing is that the students are being coerced into working in a certain way in order to get themselves noticed and get a career. They know that unless they do conceptual art they won't get public funding for what they do. It's as sim-

Water leakage falls 10% ın a year

By MICHAEL HARRISON

WATER LEAKAGE levels fell by more than 10 per cent last year as nearly all the water companies in England and Wales met or beat the targets set by the industry regulator. But Ian Byatt, director gen-

eral of Ofwat, warned yesterday that some companies had only achieved their targets because of the mild winter, while others had a lot to do to achieve this year's targets. He also rejected industry

claims that the majority of companies were now close to their "economic" rate of leakage -the level at which it is cheaper to find new sources of water than to continue plugging leaks in the system.

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Three companies - Anglian, Portsmouth and Mid Kent failed to meet their leakage targets. Mr Byatt said he was satisfied with the explanations given by Portsmouth and Mid Kent. But he has put Anglian on probation, ordering the company to report to him oo its progress every three months.

The industry's target was to reduce leakage levels by just over 5 per cent from 4,528 megalitres a day in 1996-97 to 4,285 megalitres a day in 1997-98. In the event leakage rates fell by 12 per cent to 3,980 megalitres a day. The target for the current year is a daily leak rate of 3,612 megalitres – a re-

duction of just over 9 per cent. A spokesman for the industry body Water UK said the reduction in leakage was equivalent to the capacity of a medium sized reservoir. In the ly from trunk mains.

had reduced leaks by enough to serve a city the size of Birmingham three times over.

The improvement in performance comes after severe criticism of the industry for failing to tackle leaks with sufficient vigour. Some firms, including Thames, are now offering to repair leaks on customers' premises free of charge. However, Thames has included a proviso stating that unless the offer is taken up households may be taken to court.

The national leakage rate is now down to about 20 per cent against what the industry regards as an "economic" rate of about 15 per cent. However Mr Byatt said the quality of the studies on which the industry based its estimates were not very high. "Nor am I convinced by arguments made by the majority of companies that they are already close to their economic levels of leakage."

Thames bad the highest level of leakage of any supplier at 906 megalitres a day. However, this was below its target of 962 megalitres and represented a 16 per cent fall on the previous year.

The biggest reduction in leakage rates was at the Folkestone and Dover water company which reduced leakage by 25 per cent. South West Water, which has the highest water bills in the country, achieved a 22 per cent reduction.

The regulator said Anglian had missed its target because it had discovered previously underestimated leakage, main-

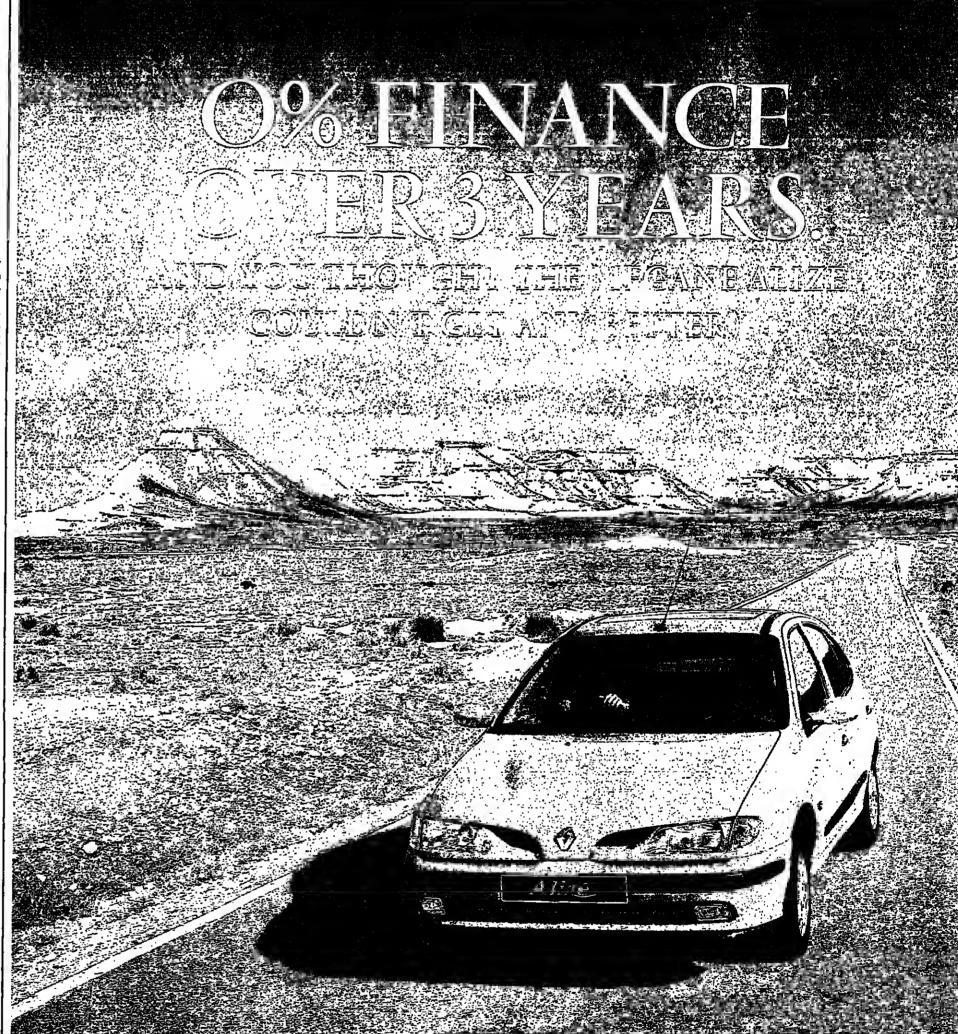
	6/97*	97/98*	REPORT 97/98* achieved	98/99° target	from 96/97 to 97/98, %
Thames	1083	962	906	781	16
North West	666	705	5 79	515	13
Severa 7reni	479	410	399	348	17
Yorkshire	420	434	368	363	12
Welsh Water		354	337	308	6
Anglian	236	211	235	205	0
Northumbria		187	184	173	4
	129	124	110	103	15
Wessex	129	110	101	96	22
South West		100	99	95	12
Southern	113		3317	2987	13
Total •Megalitres/day	3803	3597	3311		Source. OFWAT

DAVID MCKITTRICK

"Ballymoney joins the long, sad litany of places visited by death, where lives are taken and those of the survivors ruined"

—THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4





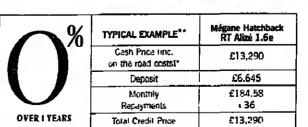
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Bibi is engulfed by legal scandal

BY PATRICK COCKBURN in Jerusalem

IT IS a scandal which has everything. At its centre is the trial of Nahum Manbar, businessman and former Israeli paratrooper, found guilty last month. but not yet sentenced, for selling equipment to make poison gas to the Iranians.

This week he was to face Amnon Strashnov, the presiding judge in the trial, to receive what was likely to be a lengthy sentence. Instead the Israeli media and political élite was convulsed yesterday by allegations that Judge Strashnov was having an affair with one of the defence lawyers and also discussing the case with Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister.

Amnon Zichroni, Mr Manbar's lawyer, says he has firm evidence that the judge was having an affair with Pninat Yanai, 26, a member of the defence team who has now been fired. He also says she was intimately involved with Shai Bazak, the prime minister's spokesman, Mr Netanvahu had earlier demanded that Mr Manbar receive an exemplary sentence.

Not surprisingly the juicioess of the scandal meant that Israeli radio news yesterday covered the affair for 20 minutes before briefly turning to the UN's condemnation of Israel for planning to expand the borders

So far, at least, the Manbar affair resembles the Monica

NCI

Lewinsky scandal in Washingtoo in that the accusations come primarily from a single not very objective source, in this case Ms Yanai's ex-boyfriend. She herself denies having an affair with Judge Strashnov, a former army prosecutor known for tolerance to soldiers accused of breaking the arms and legs of Palestinians, though she once worked for him. Judge Strashnov says he cannot com-meot on the allegations.

Unfortunately for Mr Netanyahu he had already involved himself in the trial when Mr Manbar was found guilty by denouncing him and demanding that he receive a lengthy sentence. He said be should "pay beavily for the borrible

Mr Manbar's fault is apparently that he at first sold weaponry to Iran with the permission of the Shin Bet, the domestic security agency, but refused to stop when they told him to. He was secretly arrested in 1997 when he landed at Tel Aviv airport.

Mr Manbar, understandably enough, says that if be is guilty, so are several hundred other people. During the Iran-Iraq war between 1980 and 1988, Israel supplied Iran with hightechnology weapons and spare parts for American-made air-Mr Manbar sent some 150

tons of equipment to Iraq to make chemical and biological weapons, but it is unclear where he purchased it. Some Supreme Court.



Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, is accused of interfering in an arms dealer's trial Eyal Warshavsky tal state. But she rejected a de-

Rape evidence stalls war trial

BY JANET MCBRIDE in The Hague

THE TRIAL of suspected war criminal Bosnian Croat Anto Furundzija ran into trouble yesterday wheo doubt was cast on the evidence of the prosecution's star witness. The judges ordered the case to be reopened to allow further examination of rape testimony by the witness on whose evidence the case binges

Furundzija, the former commander of "The Jokers" a paramilitary special unit, was arrested by NATO-led troops in Vitez, central Bosnia, last December. He is on trial for allegedly standing by as a subordinate raped and tortured a Moslem woman, Witoess A. The trial ended last month and the verdict was expected today.

But yesterday the judges attacked the prosecution for failing to present psychiatric evidence which could undermine the woman's testimony.

Furundzija's case is one of six before the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia and arises from the ethnic cleansing of Muslims in the Lasva Valley area of central Bosnia in 1993.

Presiding Judge Florence Mumba ordered the prosecutor to hand over all relevant medical documents to the defence and said the defence team should be allowed to recall Witness A and any others who could testify on her meofence motion to strike Witness A's testimony and declined to order a retrial.

Such decisions lay beyond the court's jurisdiction, said Mumba. adding: "It is obvious that Witness A received counselling or treatment as a result of the (alleged rape and torture). There is no question that this is relevant. It is clearly relevant

"The chamber feels that the prosecution did not fulfil the mandate of disclosure and it did prejudice the right of the ac-

cused to a proper defence." Furundzija, 29. sat quietly through the hearing, listening to the judges' comments through an interpreter. The prosecution's case hinges on Witness A, who is protected. She testified in closed session.

According to the indictment, Furundzija failed to intervene when another accused beat Witness A then forced her to have oral and vaginal intercourse with him at the Jokers' beadquarters in a complex called "The Bungalow" in the town of Nadioci.

In the motion to annul Witoess A's evidence, the defence accused prosecutors of withholding information showing the woman suffered psychological trauma, was under psychiatric care and subject to memory suppression,

The reopening of the Furundzija trial, probably at the end of August, and the judge's complaints are the latest in a spate of setbacks for the pros-

Mugabe speeds up plans to seize farms

ZIMBABWE'S WHITE farmers By Cris Chinaka have been warned they could lose their land sooner than they had feared as the governmeot speeds up a controversial land reallocation programme.

In a speech at the official opening of a new session of parliament yesterday the country's embattled President Robert Mugabe gave no fresh details of his drive to seize mostly white-owned commercial farms but said be was under pressure from land-hungry black peasants.

The 74-year-old president also hinted that he intends to curb the country's small but sharply critical independent press.

Last November Mr Mugabe listed about 1,500 commercial farms for the first phase of a programme he argues is vital to correcting the current land ownership imbalance, securing social peace and economically empowering the black majori-

The government says about 4,500 whites occupy 70 per cent of Zimbabwe's best farmland while more than 700,000 peasants are crowded in scrubby, infertile communal lands.

Many white farmers say

in Harare

they accept the principle of land redistribution, but along with international donors say it should be voluntary and based on adequate compensation.

Initially Mr Mugabe insisted he would not pay for the land but just for the buildings and improvements, on the grounds that whites had "stole" the land when they colonised the country in 1890.

However government ministers - but not Mr Mugabe now say the issue of "full compensation" might be addressed if foreign donors support the 40 billioo Zimbabwe dollars (£1.4bn) programme at a conference set for September.

Mr Mugabe hinted he was now looking to local rather than international sources of

While we welcome the financial and material support from the donor community, we should always primarily rely on the strength and resources of our people.

"The national land reform and resettlement programme will be accelerated in the curthat hundreds of peasants would be resettled on 112 farms before the start of the 1998-99 November to April

Israeli press reports refer to Mr Manbar providing manu-

facturing facilities for nerve

gas, but this is not something

freely available on the market.

when Nissim Zvilli, a Labour

member of the Knesset,

accused Mr Netanyahu of

becoming involved in the case.

He said: "It seems Netanyahu

The scandal began to break

cropping season.

He said the programme was being brought forward in the wake of recent attempts by some peasants to occupy farms on their own.

On the eve of the opening of parliament, the embattled Mr Mugabe also warned he might curtail Zimbabwe's independeot newspapers.

We have seen tendencies in our press to try and sell their papers on the basis of manufactured lies and the so-called opposition press is thriving on lies," the official news agency Ziana quoted Mr Mugabe as saying at a reception on Monday night

"Shall we allow this to continue? Shall papers of that nature be allowed to manufacture lies at the expense of individuals? I say no."

State-controlled newspapers, radio and television dominate Zimbabwe's media.

"Let the gutter press take heed because we are not going to have this kind of journalism in this country." Mr Mugabe said. "It cannot be freedom of rent year," he said, reiterating expression if you are telling lies and defaming individuals.

initiated talks with Strashnov, in which they discussed the trial, procedure and other elements." This broke the gag order previously imposed by the

German to be simplified

cleared the way yesterday for a reform of the German language that noted writers and many ordinary Germans oppose.

The Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe ruled the changes - the first major overhaul of written German in nearly a century - were constitutional.

The verdict sets a legal precedent for several other challenges against the reform, scheduled to take effect 1 August after years of debate over how to simplify one of the world's more complex languages. Changes include shortening lengthy compound words, cutting comma rules to

GERMANY'S HIGHEST COURT BY TONY CZUCZKA in Bonn

quicken the flow of writing. new spellings and fewer exceptions to writing rules.

But opponents still bope to punch a hole in the reform. A 27 September referendum in Schleswig-Holstein would, if approved, legally bar the state from applying the changes. which culture ministers from Germany, Switzerland and Aus-

tria agreed in 1996. The other two countries seem to take the changes in their stride. But in rule-loving Germany more than 100 prominent authors and academics signed an appeal urging politicians to stop the reform, call-

ing it "absolutely unnecessary in most respects." Signers included Germany's best-known author, Guenter Grass, who wrote The Tin Drum. Some of the changes bring

German closer to English. Sentences such as "He's the man who came to dinner" have needed a comma before "who" in German but won't require it And Germans will no longer

cleanup" but "clean up" - as in "sauber machen". Other words will be spelled more phonetically. Dolphin, for example, will be spelled "Delfin" instead of "Delphin". (In German, nouns are capitalised one thing that will stay the same under the new rules.





Clinton leads war on millennium bug

BY ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON they offer to others in solving yesterday announced a raft of new proposals to head off the year 2000 computer problem by encouraging companies to help themselves. The United States' approach is likely to shape responses around the world.

The Year 2000 or Y2K problem (called the millennium bug in Britain) is caused by bad programming. Computer programmers set dates on computers to store only the last two digits of the year, and thus 2000 is indistinguishable from 1900. Apparently programmers did oot foresee that the year 2000 would occur, shortly after 1999. Now, the computer industry wants to be bailed out from a problem which it created. It is also concerned that it may be held legally responsible for its

ing companies from liability for advice and information that the problem. The "Good Samaritan" legislation which he proposed would make it easier for companies to set up clearing houses for solutions. Companies would still, however, be liable for any problems with products or machines which

The plan would also include an information technology joh site on the World Wide Web where employers could meet experts. And it would fund \$12m (£7m) to support the World Bank's campaign to improve awareness of the problem in the developing world. Many poorer countries have spent large sums on machines that will simply fail to work.

they themselves had produced.

ger for America than anywhere

Mr Clinton proposed shield- day life relies on computers. The President will launch a Council on Year 2000 Conversion later this month to bring together public and private sector experts on the problem, and study how to remedy it.

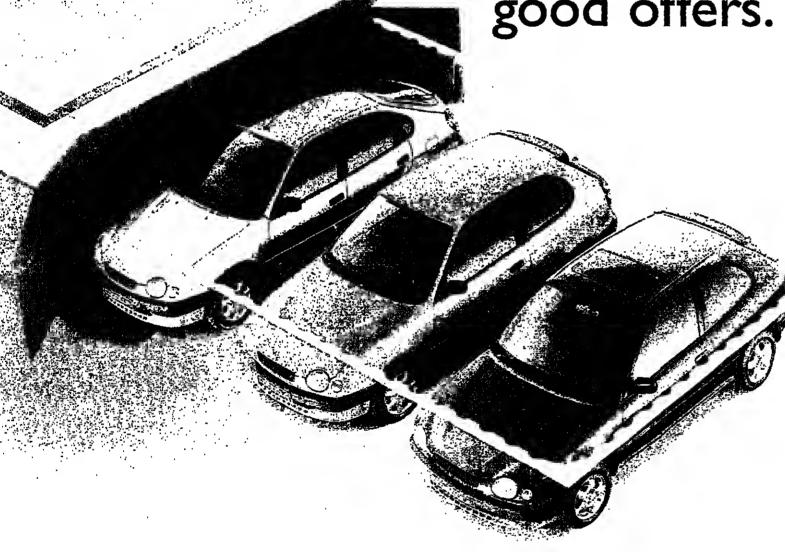
Wall Street held a dress rehearsal for the millennium on Monday loading its computers with data for 29 December 1999 and simulating what happens the trades are completed. The rehearsal will continue for two weeks, and is intended to prepare the ground for a much larger test next year. The exercise involved 29 securities firms and 12 exchanges, but it was limited to one country. The fear is that when the champagne corks pop, stock markets connected across the world will react in different ways, producing chaos. The problem may well be big- The securities industry is spending up to \$6bn to make it-

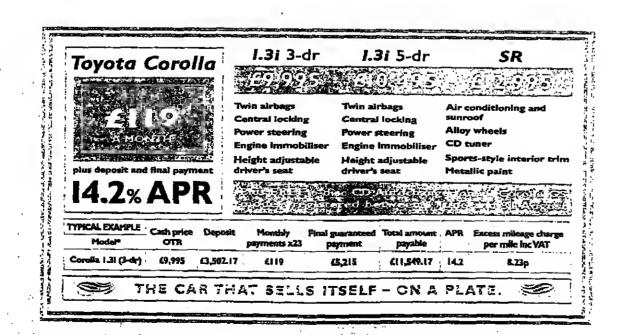
Wall Street is busily scurrying to find ways of making money out of the millennium crash. Securities firm Merrill Lynch has produced a report reviewing companies' responses, and estimating which are good investments on the strength of it. It concludes that while there is a problem for a number of sectors, including banking and utilities, it is not catastrophic. And the computer companies which caused the problem in the first place - are benefiting by selling solutions to customers who bought the badlydesigned machines.

If Congress does not pass legislation against the tobacco industry, the White House will consider suing the industry to recover health care costs, a spokesman said yesterday. The Republicans defeated plans to raise cigarette prices and limit



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Gucci murder trial in turmoil

By ANNE HANLEY in Rome

THE ALLEGED murder of luxury leatherwear magnate Maurizio Gucci was a family affair arranged not only by his former wife, Patrizia Reggiani, but by her aged mother too, according to Giuseppina Auriemma, the Neapolitan medium on trial for setting up the Gucci killing in

In a spontaneous statement which threw yesterday's session of the Gucci murder trial into disarray, Ms Auriemma said she bad withheld the whole truth since being arrested in February 1997. "I always said that no one else knew about the killing, but now I admit that Silvana Barbieri knew everything," she claimed. "They'd been try-

ing to find a killer for years." Ms Auriemma dropped her bombshell on the day that the former Mrs Gucci took the witness stand for the first time to convince the court that her often-expressed wish to see ordered Gucci's murder," she her former husband dead was more than the de tasy of a sick woman.

"I asked everyone and anyone to murder him ... It was an obsession," Ms Reggiani told the court. To then take concrete steps to make her obsession come true, she argued yesterday, would have been madness.

"Do you honestly think," she asked, "that when the whole world knew that I was looking



Patrizia Reggiani leaving court yesterday AF

for a killer, I'd go to Auriemma and ask her to find me one?" Ms Auriemma maintains that is what happened. She has ad-

mitted to contacting hotel owner Ivano Stavioni, who found a driver and a hitman to dispose of Gucci on 27 March 1995. But while says she acted on precise orders, Ms Reggiani says her former friend used her own initiative. "I absolutely deny having said in court.

the Guccis began to fall apart in the early Nineties. After a stormy divorce in 1994, Ms Reggiani began to dwell on the need to dispose of Gucci who was, she feared, squandering her two daughters' inheritance. At that point, she says, she began verbalising what were no more than homicidal fantasies.

The trial continues.

Spain's rising star befriends Blair

BY ELIZABETH NASH in Madrid

SPAIN'S SOCIALIST Party leader, Josep Borrell, arrives in Britain tomorrow for his first meeting with Tony Blair at the invitation of the Foreign Office, who always like to check out a potential future European prime minister.

So seismic has been the impact of Mr Borrell's unexpected election as party leader in April, that the Socialists' expectation of years in the wilderness have yielded to the prospect of electoral victory within two years. A weekend poll gave the ruling Popular Party a lead over the Socialists of only 1.4 points and the Socialists always deliver more

votes than polls predict Mr Blair is likely to hit it off with Mr Borrell, not just because of their obvious political sympathy, but because their personal and political style have much in common, Mr Borrell approaches his predecessor Felipe Gonzalez in skill and charisma, and behind his articulate defence of social justice and equality he carries light ideological baggage in a party that puts per-

sonalities before policies. A former public works min-

ister, Mr Borrell, 53, defeated Mr Gonzalez's hand-picked successor as party leader after receiving overwhelming support in Spain's first primaries. He will be scrutinising the experience of New Labour for lessons on how to consolidate his position in the party machine and transmute that sup-

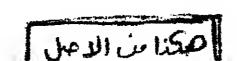
port inte electoral victory. The Labour Party bas picked up on the Socialists' concern about Mr Blair's blossoming relationship with Spain's Cooservative Prime Minister, Jose Maria Aznar Mr Aznar, always on the lookout for powerful European frieods, declares his affinity with Mr Blair whom he calls "my friend" and "a centralist, like me".

Diplomatic sources suggest the friendship is reciprocated, and that Mr Blair was flattered by the warm welcome Mr Aznar extended to Cherie Blair. their children and his motherin-law during their brief visit at Easter Spain's Socialists feared the hond between the two young prime ministers could leave Mr Borrell - Mr Blair's natural political ally - scampering to cover lost ground. Tony Blair's popularity is huge in Spain, and the meeting will enhance Mr Borrell's standing.

MILES KINGTON

"Hewitt tells how he has spent the last year looking for all the relics of Diana which were going to make him rich"

—THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 2



IN BRIEF

Algerian media

stage protest ABOUT 100 journalists held a noisy protest outside the Algiers office of the Algerian Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia

yesterday to protest against an order to evict

colleagues from a hotel

government protection.

The journalists called for

Freedom, Dignity and

Israel berated

ISRAELS REPORT to the

human-rights record was

attacked by international

said the lack of mention of

rights groups. Amnesty

Palestinian territories

given the scale ... of the

human-rights violations"

Human Rights Watch.

misrepresents Israel's

human-rights record."

Kenya news ban

the report "seriously

based in New York, said

was "unacceptable ..

United Nations on its

Security," during the

one-hour rally.

where they live under

Indonesian troops on torture charges

SEVEN MEMBERS of an elite By Richard Lloyd Parry army unit, led by the son-in-law of former president Suharto, were arrested yesterday for kidnapping and torturing opponents of the former Indonesian leader. The arrests came after a statement by the military hinting that members of of Nezar Patria. Alan Rusthe Indonesian special forces, known as Kopassus, may have olaved a part in the riots that

led to Mr Suharto's downfall. This appears to confirm what has been rumoured in Indonesia for months: that elements within the army played an active role in suppressing the democratic movement, and may even have stirred up instability as a prelude to seizing power.

A spokesman for the Indonesian armed forces (Abri) said members of Kopassus were involved in the abduction and imprisonment of nine political activists on the orders of their former commander. General Prabowo Subianto, the husband of one of Mr Suharto's daughters.

Several Kopassus personnel were involved in the kid- in the abductions have been cir- armed forces commander. Gen-

cci murder

napping and unauthorised detention of Pius Lutril Anang, Desmond Mahesa, Hariyanto Taslam, Andi Arief, Feisol Reza and Rahardjo Waluyo, as well as the unauthorised detention may have engineered two days diyanto and Mugiyanto," the Abri statement said.

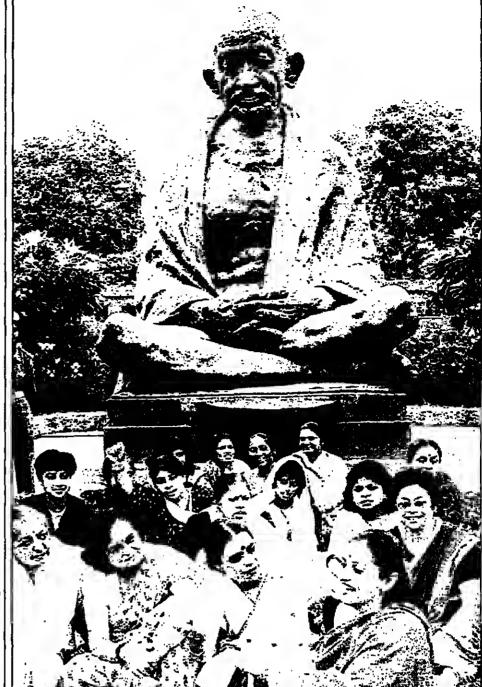
"They are suspected of having violated procedures, which started from some order from the head of Kopassus, to uncover radical activities. However, in carrying it out, actions which exceeded the limits were committed, with the unauthorised detention of the victims in violation of the law." Several of the abducted de-

scribed being taken from the streets, blindfolded, and held in windowless cells, where they were questioned about their political activities and tortured with electric shocks. Eight were eventually released and several later fled abroad. Rumours of General Prabowo's complicity

culating in Jakarta for months. but this is the first time that the politicians and foreign diplopossibility of his involvement mats in Jakarta, the generals has been publicly acknowlwere engaged in a fierce strugedged by the military. gle for power within Abri, in Even more intriguing is the

wbich General Wiranto won_ hint that elements in the military They speculate that troops loyal to General Prabowo deof rioting that brought to an end liberately inflamed local people. Mr Suharto's 32-year rule a week triggering the riots. On the later. The Abri statement said it pretext of restoring order and protecting Mr Suharto, they has identified the existence of "several people" who engineered would then have seized power. the riots on 13 and 14 May. "Based A senior source in Jakarta said on the findings, it can be conthat on 20 May, the night before cluded that the incident [the ri-Mr Suharto's resignation, oting] was extremely complex Kopassus troops took up posiand represented an accumulations overlooking the national tion of social, political and ecoparliament, which had been nomic problems - which had taken over by student protestbeen buried for a long time ers. They intended to fire on the which exploded under the students, but stood down after 'medium of reform' that dashed General Prabowo failed to find the pillars of law, as well as the the necessary support from nation's moral ethics," it said. other commanders.

> In a separate report, an organisation in Jakarta called the Volunteers of Humanity claimed that at least 162 women, most of them of Chinese descent, were raped dur-



PROTESTS AGAINST the Kenyan government's decision effectively to ban three local newspapers grew yesterday with 25 diplomatic missions expressing concero and disappointment at the move. A statement from the embassies of the biggest and most influential donor countries said the move was "without apparent justification".

Papal discord

AS VOICES go, it wouldn't win any Grammy awards, but Pope John Paul's low. hoarse and not always on-key tones are jealously guarded, as the Roman fashion designer, Kean Etro, discovered when he planned to use a snippet of papal Gregorian chant for his haute couture fashion show tomorrow. He had to change his tune when Vatican lawyers threatened legal action.

Hong Kong sacks its PR chief Executive and Anson

is about to get rid of Thomas Chan, its chief spin doctor, a sure sign that this accidentprone administration is desperate to find a way of restoring

Floundering governments have a babit of blaming their problems on bad public relations and so it is hardly surprising that senior Hong Kong officials want a new boss for the very large Government Information Services department.

Public relations disasters are hitting Hong Kong from every direction. The latest disaster, the bungling of the new airport opening, has struck at the territory's most vulnerable point because it is undermining

in Hong Kong

its role as a major trading centre. Before that, the administration was battling to retain credibility as it tried to pretend that Hong Kong was somebow immune from the Asian financial crisis. Now officials have been forced to admit the economy is going into recession.

Every day brings new evidence of the government's plunging opinion-poll ratings, and even its most stalwart supporters are expressing doubts about its competence.

Faced by a truly amazing succession of climatic problems and health and food poisoning scares, the government

these natural disasters by its management of the problems.

An amhitious and preco-

ciously successful officer. Gen-

eral Prabowo was removed

from the command of Kopassus

the day after Mr Suharto's res-

ignation on 21 March by the

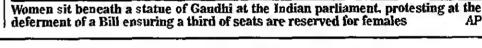
Meanwhile, Tung Chee-hwa. the chief executive, has gone to ground. Part of his problem is that be does not trust the officials around him and is immersed in an extraordinary battle for control of the government machinery between his pro-Peking advisers and the civil service machine he inberited from the British.

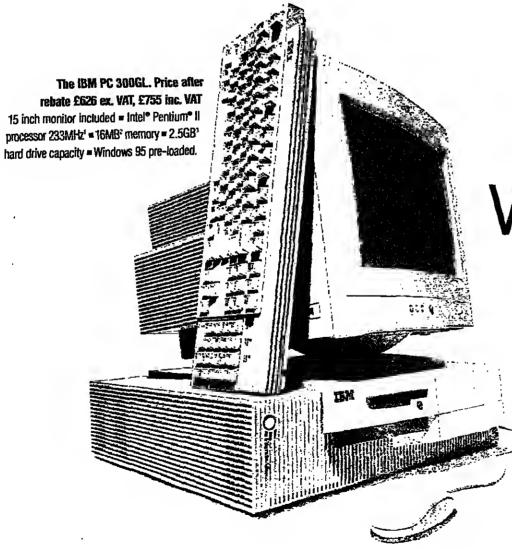
veloped something close to an obsession about getting rid of his deputy. Anson Chan, the bead of the civil service, an oldschool bureaucrat with popularity ratings consistently far bigher than those of Mr Tung.

The pro-Peking lobby has de-

Chan claim to be working amicably together but in reality their relationship is fraught, Mr Tung is loath to allow the highly competent Mrs Chan to take charge of the crises, fearing thal she will overshadow him. She is aware of this sensitivity and, until recently, has kept well in the background. Now she is becoming more assertive.

Paralysed by the infighting, Mr Tung is seen as increasingly Ineffective. His only consistent supporters are the leaders in Peking, who spare no opportunity to lavish praise on him. It is a sign of their detachment from Hong Kong reality that they have no idea how counterproductive their plaudits are.

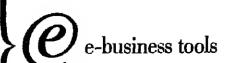




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Scavenging Palestinian boys and the sparsely tenanted Nativity Hotel (left) near Bethlehem mirror the economic failure of the occupied territories since Oslo David Silver

Israelis check a hotelier's dream

GUESTS DO not always find it easy to get to the Nativity Hotel in Beit Jalla near Bethlehem. Saliba Tareh, 60, the Palestinian owner, says that last year 13 husloads of pilgrims from Italy. led by an archbishop, had to fall to their knees to pray before they were allowed to proceed the road from Jerusalem.

Tareh, a retired insurance agent, and his family decided to build the Nativity Hotel at a cost of \$3m (£1.8m) in the first flush of enthusiasm after the signing of the Oslo Accords between Israel and the Palestinians in 1993. "I thought peace was coming," said Mr Tareh. "Originally, I was going to build a commercial centre. After the Israelis signed with the Palestinians I decided to open a hotel instead."

time to regret. Just at the moment, the Nativity Hotel - a pleasant airy building with 90 rooms - has only 20 guests, who are paying less than \$35 a night. It has seldom been more than past the Israeli checkpoint on 20 per cent full since Yasser Arafat officially opened it in Almost five years ago, Mr April 1996, A photograph on the wall shows a happy-looking Mr Tareh standing beside the Palestinian leader with a knife in his hand as he cuts a cake.

The fate of the hotel mirrors the economic failure of Oslo. Palestinian living standards have fallen by between onequarter and one-third since it was agreed. Salem Ajluni, a United Nations economist in Gaza, says: "There has been a 25-30 per cent decline in Palestinian per capita GNP (gross national product] since 1992."

The European Commission gives a higher figure of a 35 per cent drop.

In both cases, the reason for the decline is given as the division of the areas in which 2.5 million Palestinians live in Gaza and the West Bank into economic islands. From 1993, it became difficult for Palestinians to move in and out of Gaza or Jerusalem. "The closure policy was institutionalised and expanded to include Jerusalem in that year," Mr Ajluni said.

Fixed Israeli checkpoints were put on the roads. There is one on the road between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, opposite the new Jewish settlement at Har Homa. To travel to Jerusalem to meet travel agents to try to bring guests to his hotel, Mr Tareh, a distinguished looking grey haired man, must first get a permit to enter Jerusalem and is not allowed to bring his car. "Do I look workforce will be able to get to as Mr Tareh was explaining his like a terrorist?" he asks. "Am I likely to bring in a bomb?"

But it is Israeli checkpoints, like the one on the Bethlehem road, that form an obstacle course which stifles Palestinian commercial life, ensuring that Mr Arafat's Palestinian Authority (PA) does not become a single economic entity. "They continue to be run like roadblocks in the days of the Ottoman empire," writes Arie Caspi in the Haartez newspapotatoes.

Israeli closure. These days they are shifting back to growing potatoes. per "Any reserve sergeant stationed at a West Bank or Gaza

dreds of thousands of dollars." The biggest loss for the Palestinians is that they are prevented from going to work in Israel on a regular basis. This in turn means that they are less attractive to an Israeli employer who does not know if his

roadblock can cause the PA

damage amounting to hun-

work through the checkpoints. The number of Palestinians working in Israel has fallen by two-thirds since 1993.

The same fragmentation of their economy hits Palestinian farmers in Gaza growing flowers or fruit. In 1996, farmers there were feeding their donkeys on carnations, which they could not export because of an

Mr Tareh's hotel was largely financed by his relatives. Greek Orthodox Christians from Beit Jallah, who emigrated to Chile. Peru and the United States. Overall, however foreign investment in the occupied territories has dried up since 1997. because the movement of people and goods is too vulnerable

to Israeli restrictions. Ironically, on the same day

problems in the empty lobby of his hotel, the Israeli cabinet put out a self-congratulatory statement saying that the Palestinian economy had expanded since Oslo. Benjamin Netanvahu, the Israeli Prime Min-

ister, said that "if there has been a pattern of positive development in the Palestinian economy, this is purely as a result of Israeli policy". He attacked the "centralist economic policy of the Palestinian Authority" for slowing growth.

Foreign economists are mystified about the source of Mr Netanyahu's information and nothing could be less "centralist" than the isolated Palestinian enclaves ruled by Mr Arafat. In the meantime, Mr Tareh does not intend to give up. Looking none too hopeful, he said: "My only alternative is to close and I won't do that."

Daughter rejects verdict on Abiola

> DESPITE an international all- By PATRICK GOODDEN clear regarding the death of Nigeria's leading political prisoner, many in the opposition remain unconvinced.

A team of foreign doctors found that Moshood Abiola, presumed winner of the 1993 presidential elections, died of natural causes. But his daughter, Hafsat, 23, insisted the death was suspicious. Ms Abiola, who lives in the US, said: The military conveniently took him out."

More evidence emerged yesterday to confirm suggestions that Abiola was dangerously ill. The Lagos-based Guardian said the government radiologist wrote a report in 1994 saying his heart was dangerously enlarged. The government had contemplated allowing him abroad for treatment. According to the Guardian, Sani Abacha, the former Nigerian dictator, who died last month, initially approved a recommendation that Abiola should be sent abroad, but later changed his mind.

The authorities have tried to send signals of conciliation. since Abacha's death, including the release of dozens of political prisoners. Before his death. it was reported that Abiola was about to be released. But opposition activists are still deeply sceptical about the intentions of General Abdulsalam Abubakar Abacha's successor as mili-

tary leader. The timetable for a return to civilian rule, which has constantly slipped in recent years, is as unclear as ever. Even was theoretically due in Octo-

ber But the Lagos-based This Day newspaper said the han-dover might be put back to the end of March.

A prominent opposition group has threatened to boycom the official plans for a transition to democracy, which are expected to be announced this week, perhaps today. The Joint Action Committee on Nigeria called for a government of national unity, as the only way to heal the country's wounds. The group's leader, a Lagos lawyer, Gani Fawehinmi, said: "We want a sense of national well-

being." The committee has called for a national conference to discuss ways in which Nigeria's southerners are given a role in government of the country. Dozens have died in riots following the death of Abiola, a Yoruba south-

The protests were as ethnic as they were political: many of those who were attacked were from the north. Observers fear that north-south splits within the country could weaken Nigeria, with potentially disastrous consequences.

Supporters of Abiola have been deeply critical of some of

the comments from abroad. The UN Secretary-Gener al, Kofi Annan, has been criticised for making statements with no foundation in truth".

Mr Annan had suggested that Abiola was ready to give up his claim to be president in return for his liberty. Abiola's supporters deny that he was under Abacha, the handover ready to compromise in this



ejects erdict



French Foreign Legion pioneers in yesterday's Bastille Day parade in Paris

France has recaptured its pride, says Chirac

FRANCE "rediscovered its soul" when it won the World Cup, President Chirac said vesterday. In his traditional message to mark the French national day, Mr Chirac paid tribute to the multi-racial French football team - "tricolore and multi-colore" - which had "demonstrated solidarity

and togetherness". Asked to explain the ed the winning values of the extraordinary scenes of joy which followed the victory, he said: Every people feels the need to rediscover itself, to rediscover itself through an idea which

makes it proud of itself." The country's delight at winning the World Cup with such an ethnically diverse team "showed that France has a soul or, more precisely, that it to catch its hreath after two

BY JOHN LICHFIELD in Paris

felt the need to re-find its soul. I hope that, in the days that follow, we can preserve something of this national feeling".

Earlier, the French coach, Aime Jacquet was made a knight of the Legion d'Honneur, France's highest civil award, as part of the President's honours list to mark

who retires this week, "represented all that was best in the French: serious, determined, buman, approachable, understanding, tolerant but firm".

The national holiday was almost an anti-climax this year. an opportunity for the country

days of wild rejoicing. A somewhat larger crowd than usual assembled on the Champs-Elysées to watch the traditional military parade. The

numbers were estimated at 150,000, perhaps 10 per cent of the vast crowd which greeted the World Cup winners the day before. The airborne part of the ceremony included, for the first time, an RAF flypast by three Tornado F3s from the Euro-Bastille Day. Mr Chirac said that Jacquet, pean air group. In the remainder of his tele-

vision interview at the Elysées Palace, Mr Chirac took a conciliatory line towards the Socialist-led government with which he has cobabited for just over a year. He praised the Prime Minister Lionel Jospin's contribution to the French economic recovery hut said much of the credit should also go to the reforms and budget-cutting efforts of the two previous centre-right governments. Despite being written off as a lameduck, Mr Chirac's popularity figures (and Mr Jospin's) have been wafted to new heights by the economic upturn and the country's footballing success. The President's approval rating is 68 per cent, its highest ever.

Mr Jospin's is 70 per cent. Mr Chirac was asked whether France should avoid political double-acts in the future, by reducing the presidential term from seven years to five, the life of the parliament. He said he was opposed to an idea which would, in effect. give France an American pres-Idential system and allow the

Fewer kicks on Route 66

TONY CHRISTIE immortalised this small Texas Panhandle town in 1971 with the song "Is This the Way to Amarillo?" It was the only thing I knew about the place until I visited t last week, and it seemed an odd title. After all, the town is served by two enormous interstate highways, both ade-

quately signposted. But one can see how he might have missed his exit. Amarillo lies on the southeastern edge of the High Plains, a place of humbling wide open spaces with no landmarks that man has not made himself. The Spanish settlers feared losing their way here and dug stakes into the ground to aid their navigation, so the area became known as the Llanos Estaca-

dos, or Staked Plains. Sitting in the middle of all this nothing, Amarillo is an edd place. It used to be the world's largest producer of helium, the stuff you put in balloons and inhale to make your voice go funny. It also has a very large plutonium facility just outside town. The local airport has what is intended to he a soothing exhibition, reassuring casual travellers that plutonium is far less dangerous than many other everyday. substances, like, oh, cyanide.

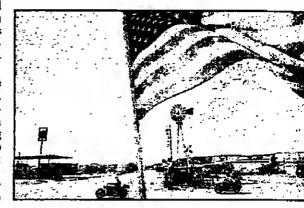
botulism and nerve gas. Amarillo was once a key stop-off on America's favourite highway, what the writer John Steinbeck called the Mother Road: Route 66. It swept all the way from Chicago to Los Angeles, taking in 2,300 miles of the United States.

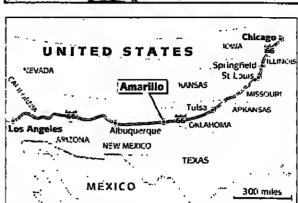
This was more than a road, it was a mythic experience, the Main Street of America. It had a song named after it in 1946, later covered by the Rolling Stones among others. which incarnated a young oation's dreams of escape. Alongside it flourished the great roadside vernacular architecture of America on the move, the gas stations and diners which celebrated travel in their tacky neon splendour, their Deco flourisbes and hrazen simplicity.

The America of Route 66

AMERICAN TIMES

AMARILLO





been replaced, and in 1984 the

last section was pensioned off. In Amarillo they have

maintained a little hit, along

the city's Sixth Street. Once

this was a wild place, where

bouses of ill-repute stood and

where an over-eager restau-

rateur publicised his wares by

hurling live chickens off his roof. Now there are "antique"

shops, most selling memen-

toes of the Fifties and Sixties

Kennedy's Time cover issue.

pleasant little restaurants

where you can sit outside and

coples of president-elect

the song and the road - seems a long way past. It was a time when the car was the best way to cross the nation, taking between four and eight days. when now an aircraft will do the distance in just a few hours. When it opened in 1938 the road was a revolution. creating new vistas for commerce and tourists, but also for Steinbeck's poor farmers fleeing the Oklahoma dust howl. It ranked alongside the Oregon trail as one of Amer-

ica's great paths of discovery. Frank Sinatra film posters, Yet its life was to be short. that sort of thing. Although it Its nemesis came in the form is a hit twee, there are plenty of Nazi Germany. Dwight of normal shops as well as the tourist traps. There are some Eisenhower returned from Europe after the war greatly impressed by the autobahns, and planned a new system of eat barbecue beef sandwiches divided, multi-carriageway with chips that recognisably roads that would better serve came from a potato, and recently. It is a down-home the military and the country. By place where everything 1970 most of Route 66 had

can still believe you are on Main Street, USA. Walk off Sixth Street, and the

seems very much in order. You

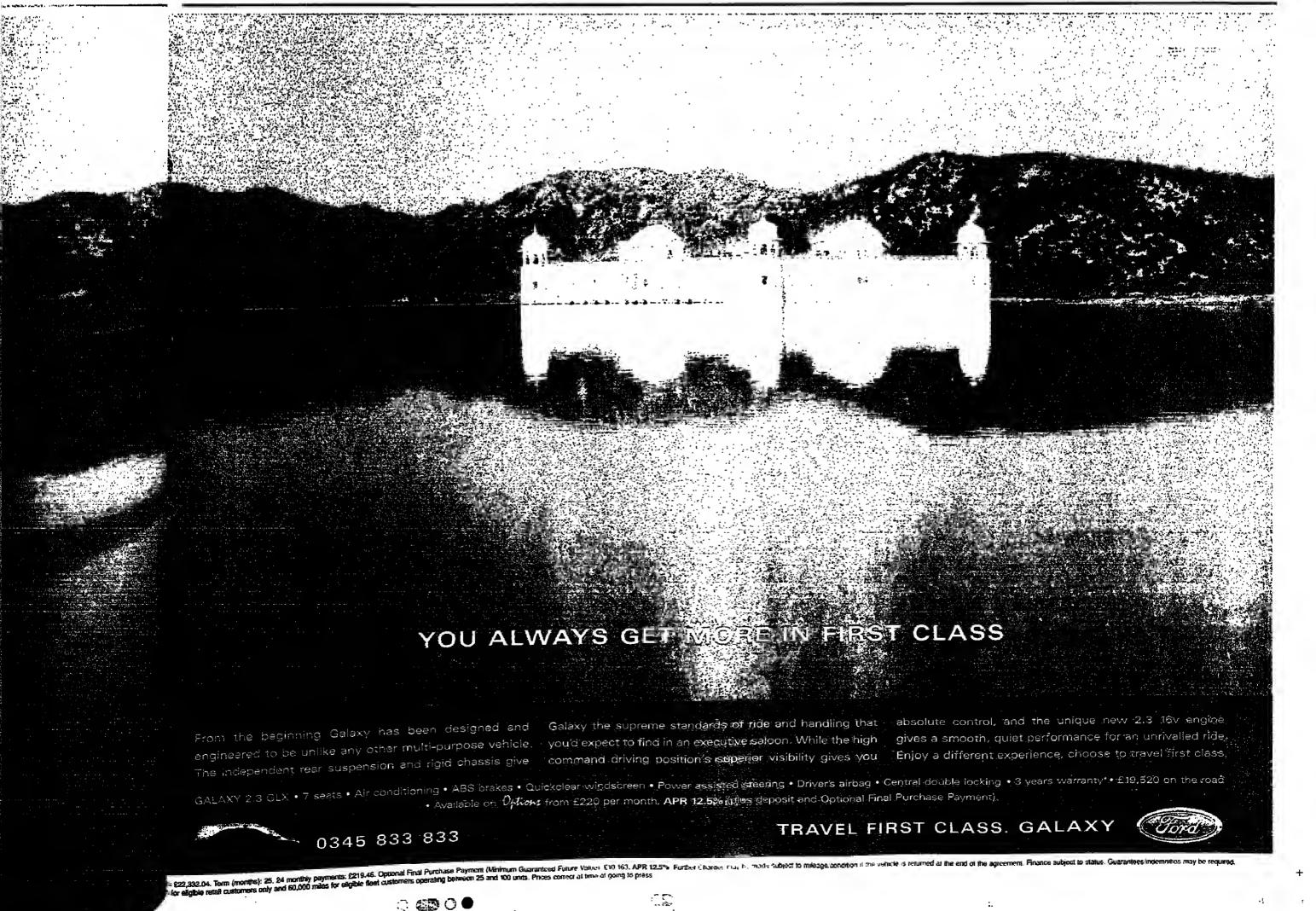
soothing air of normality is maintained. There are tidy streets of suburban houses, each with neatly mown if crispy lawns (there is a hosepipe ban) and, because I was there on 4

July, American flags. The only sound comes from the grasshoppers, as loud as old-fashioned football rattles. There is a local fad for placing road signs in the front garden with surreal personalised messages. "Art. Life of Civilization." says one. "Dirty Fighter." says another. And my favourite: "I am my own hest friend." I couldn't work out if that one

was boasting or complaining. This is a reminder of the way that communities used to work in the US. Route 66 was designed to wrap small towns and isolated cities into a network that connected the nation, binding the rural corners of Oklahoma. Kansas and Texas to the metropolises of the Mid West and the Pacific seaboard.

Now, the new interstate highways pass them by again. In Amarillo it has spawned acres of strio malls, junk-food shops and car dealers, tossed around at random as the road zooms into and out of town in a flash. Residents are moving out to smarter new suburban areas. My theory about Tony Christie is that he arrived just after they ripped up Route 66, and simply could not find his way around the new

road layout. Route 66 was a dream. It moved people, where the new roads just transport cars. The architecture they have spawned is mean, poorly constructed, and dreams only of turnover and the quick fix. They have helped to take the spirit out of the cities, throttling them and sucking the life away. In many American towns, it is bard to know where the main street is any more - and if you are there after dark, you are probably in trouble. At least you will not get hit by a chicken, though. ANDREW MARSHALL



US banks post record results

US BANKS Merrill Lynch and Donaldsoo Lufkin & Jenrette yesterday posted record second-quarter results but watched their shares slip as they failed to beat Wall Street's expectations by as wide a margin as they have in the recent past. Giant brokerage house Merrill, which earned a record \$545m in the quarter, fell a penny shy of analysts' expectations. DLJ earned \$142.3m in the quarter, up 42 per cent from \$100.2m a year ago. The investment bank beat analysts' expectations by 3 cents, according to research firm First Call. Merrill's 1998 second-quarter results included a \$56m non-casb charge, mostly to amortise its \$5.3bn acquisition of UK portfolio manager Mercury Asset Management.

In a rising overall market, Merrill's stock shed \$2.81 to \$105.125, DLJ slipped \$1.31 to \$61.75 in New York shortly

Goode Durrant profits up



STRONG GROWTH in its core van hire hnsiness tielped Goode Dirrant, the commercial vehicle rental group, to increase profits and turnover last year.

The company yesterday posted an increase of nearly 20 per cent in pretax profit to £29.5m on turnover in continuing operations no 49 per cent to £187.6m. Goode Durrant's perfomance was

driveo by a 30 per cent leap in operating profit to £38.3m at Northgate, its commercial vehicle division, which benefited from steady tire rates and falling new Investment Column, page 23

Council tries to halt bid meeting

HULL CITY COUNCIL yesterday tried to block councillors from meeting LandTel Communications. the US shell company which is attempting to huy a stake in Kingston Communications, the municipally owned telecom operator. The council's town clerk has written to LandTel's chairman, citing corruption laws and warning that an offer to hrief councillors on the bid over dinner at a 3-star hotel might be referred to the police.

A LandTel spokesman said: "This must be the first time in history that a public offer to invest in a company has run the risk of being referred to the police." The company is planning to bold a press conference in Hull

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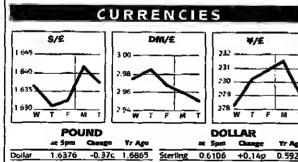
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INDICES							
lodex	Closes	Change (Change (%)	52 wh bigh 5	2 mk low Y	ald(%)	
FTSE 100	6100.20	142,60	2.39	6150.50	4382.80	3.76	
FTSE 250	5658.10	18.30	0.33	5970 90	4407.80	3.38	
FTSE 350	293 1.80	58 20	2.03	2940.10	2141.80	3.69	
FTSE All Share	2851.35	50 13	1 79	2877.04	2106 59	3.65	
FTSE SmallCase	2576,80	0.10	000	2793.80	2182.10	3 22	
FTSE Fledgling	1412.40	0,00	0.00	1517.10	1225.20	3,38	
FTSE AIM	1095_10	0.00	0.00	1146,90	965,90	1 19	
FISE EBLOC 100	1100.91	11,94	1,10				
Dow Jones	9192,25	94,49	1.04	9261.91	6971,32	1.59	
Nikker	16488.91	128 52	0.79	20698.67	14488.21	0.93	
Hang Seng	3178.93	79.73	0.98	16820.31	7351.68	5.01	

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UK	7 75	0.75	7.82	0.37	5.80	-1.30	5.43	-1 61
US	5.63	-0.0%	5.81	-0.20	5 49	-0 76	5.72	-0.83
Japan_	0.63	0.00	0 66	-0.14	1,76	-0.81	2.29	-0 77
Gormanu	2 55	0.73	3.01	·	4.70			



Dollar	1.6376	-0.37c	1.6865	Sterling	0.6106	+0.14p	0.5929
D-Mark						+0.02pf	
Yen	229 03	-¥2.35	192.37	Yen	139.88	-¥-1.07	113.70
£ inde	105.50	0 00	105.10	5 index	113.10	+0.00	103.80

OTHER INDICATORS

	Close	Chg	Yr Ago	_	Indox	Chg	Yr ago	Next fig
Brent Oil (5) 11 65	0 24	17.82	GDP	114.80	3.00	111.46	Aug
Gold (\$1	293.75	2.70	319.95	RPT	163.40	3.70	157.57	Jul
Silver (S)	5.33	0.06	4.28	Base	Rates		7.50	6.75
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SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

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TOURIST RATES								
ustralia (\$)	2.5576	Mexican (nuevo peso)	13.31					
ustria (schillings)	20.06	Netherlands (guilders)	3.2175					
elgium (francs)	58.97	New Zealand (S)	3.0256					
anada (S)	2.3594	Norway (krone)	12.22					
yprus (pounds)	0.8347	Portugal (escudos)	290.16					

Austria (schillings)	20.06	Netherlands (guilders)	3.2175	
Belgium (francs)	58.97	New Zealand (S)	3.0256	
Canada (\$)	2.3594	Norway (krone)	12.22	
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8347	Porrugal (escudos)	290.16	
Denmark (krone)	10.94	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.9587	
Finland (markka)	8.7352	Singapore (\$)	2.6614	
France (francs)	9.5825	Spain (pesetas)	241.85	
Germany (marks)	2.8661	South Africa (rands)	9.4325	
Greece (drachma)	473.02	Sweden (krone)	12.83	
Hong Kong (5)	12.29	Switzerland (francs)	2.4192	
ireland (punts)	1.1325	Thailand (bahts)	60.85	
Indian Trupees)	64.00	Turkey (liras))	424142	
Israel (shekels)	5.5326	USA (S)	1.5974	
Italy (lira)	2830			
Japan (yen)	226.52	Butes for indication purposes on		
Malaysia (ringgits)	6.5573			
Malta (lira)	0.6211	Source: Thomas Cook		
	Belgium (francs) Canada (\$) Cyprus (pounds) Denmark (krone) Finland (markka) France (francs) Germany (marks) Greece (drachma) Hong Kong (\$) Ireland (punts) Indian Irupees) Israel (shekels) Italy (lira) Japan (yen) Malaysia (ringgits)	Belgium (francs) 58.97 Canada (\$) 2.3594 Cyprus (pounds) 0.8347 Denmark (krone) 10.94 Finland (markka) 8.7352 France (francs) 9.5825 Germany (marks) 2.8661 Greece (drachma) 473.02 Hong Kong (\$) 12.29 Ireland (punts) 1.1325 Indian Irupees) 64.00 Israel (shekets) 5.5326 Italy (lira) 2830 Japan (yen) 226.52 Malaysia (ringgits) 6.5573	Belgium (francs) 58.97 New Zealand (\$)	

Stocks buoyant as inflation figures soothe rate fears

THE BLUE-CHIP FTSE 100 By Lea Paterson index soared by more than 140 points yesterday to close above 6,100, following the publication of lower-than-expected inflation figures and the Governcomprehensive spending review.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) said both the treadline and underlying rates of inflation fell by 0.1 per cent in June, the first monthly fall since January. The year-onyear headline and underlying inflatioo rates are now at their lowest level since March, and economists are predicting further falls in inflation.

Geoffrey Dicks, of Greenwich NatWest, called the figures "very good news" and said that the drop in the underlying inflation rate in June "more than made up for last month's adverse move".

The year-on-year underlying inflation rate was down from 3.2 per cent in May to 2.8 per cent in June. It is now just 0.3 per cent above the Bank of England's inflation target, and some economists were yesterday predicting inflation would he back on target level by the autumn. The year-oo-year

headline rate of inflation was 3.7 presentational reasons." per cent in June, down from 4.2 per cent in May.

Some observers in the City said the fall in inflation appeared to vindicate the decision by the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to keep rates on hold last week. Paul Mortimer-Lee at Paribas lated that the MPC had a good idea of the inflation picture

when it met last week. Mr Mortimer-Lee said: "The MPC probably had a good sniff of these figures: the better numbers may have encouraged them to stay their hand for

The ONS denied that it had given the MPC advance warning of the inflation figures. However, a spokesman said that the ONS did give hoth Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, prior notice of the figures six days before official publication.

Mr George is a member of the MPC, and has the casting vote if the committee is spilt down the middle on its rate de-

Shares rose and the pound fell as City fears of a rate rise receded. The FTSE 100 closed

and gained 35 points imediately following announcement of details of the comprehensive spending review. Sterling fin-ished the day down half a pfen-

Despite the good news on the inflation front, economists warned that it would be premature to rule out further rate rises altogether.

nig at DM2.945.

Jonathan Loynes from HSBC Markets was among those who noted that the June inflation figures were flattered by seasonal factors. He said: "Part of the undershoot of our forecast was due to a sharper

the day up 142 points at 6,100.2. than expected drop in seasonal food price inflation after the jump in May."

Some in the City highlighted the stubborn price inflation in the service sector currently running at 3.2 per cent. "We need to see more convincing signs of a slowdown in activity in services before inflation starts to cool off," Mr Loynes

Eric Fishwick of Nikko Europe said that the inflation figures were of less relevance to the interest-rate outlook than the next batch of average earnings figures, due to be released



A Cable and Wireless deal with MCI is thought to include the purchase of MCI's Internet retail customer base

C&W poised for \$2bn Internet buy

CABLE & WIRELESS, the tele- BY PETER THAL LARSEN coms giant, is close to taking full control of the Internet businesses which have been put up

for sale by MCI, the US group. According to reports from the US, C&W is close to buying MCI's Internet operations for tietween \$1.5tm and \$2bm. The deal extends the agreement signed between the companies in May when MCI sold its Internet backbone - the physical infrastructure on which traffic runs - and a customer base of 1,300 Internet service providers to C&W for \$625m (£380m).

C&W is now also believed to be buying MCI's retail customer base - the large companies who have hired the US group to manage their internet

MCI had boped that the partial sale to C&W would be enough to persuade European Union authoribies to clear its \$37bn merger with WorldCom, the US telecom giant. However, the EU subsequently insisted that MCI sell its entire Internet business.

Regulators were concerned rapidly as data and eventually that the merger with WorldCom which is already a market leader in the Internet business through its UUNet subsidiary

the world's Internet traffic. Last week the EU formally cleared the merger after MCI agreed to sell its entire Inter-

pany a near-stranglehold on

The new deal gives C&W a valuable foothold in the US telecoms market, Dick Brown,

voice telephooy move to using Internet-based standards. However, C&W has been

forced to pay up to clinch the - would give the enlarged comdeal. While the original sale was priced at three times revenues. the new deal values the operations at a multiple of four to five. C&W is believed to have

faced hefty competition from British Telecom and AT&T for the husiness. In June, the company filed a lawsuit against MCI to ensure that it was given the chief executive, believes first refusal on any Internet that Internet traffic will grow businesses MCI decided to sell.

Albert Fisher review after fresh plunge

By TERRY MACALISTER

SHARES IN hard-pressed food group, Albert Fisher, plunged over 18 per cent yesterday to a record low after the food producer issued its second profits warning in five months.

The chief executive, Neil England, promised strategic and financial reviews of the business to reverse its "unacceptable" share and trading performance. He admitted that this could lead to large-scale disposals or even a break-up of the company similar to the one proposed for rival Hillsdown, which uses the same financial

adviser, Lazard Brothers. A team of independent consultants should be chosen on Monday with a brief to complete no-holds-barred reviews of the business before the end of Sep-

The future of the dividend is uncertain. It would be reconsidered in the light of the reviews, said the company, whose chairman, Stephen Walls,

leaves at the end of next month. Albert Fisher has been struggling to reorganise after four years of price pressure from food stores. Its shares rallied briefly last year after a proposed takeover bid but this

came to nothing.
In the first half of the year, Albert Fisher posted a net loss of £26.1m, with pre-tax profits before exceptional items of

Yesterday shares feli 4.250 to 19p after the company said the earnings in the six months to 31 August would "fall somewhat

short" of the first half result. Analysts downgraded 1998 Albert Fisher profit forecasts from £33m to £22.5m.

Tim Potter, food analyst at Merrill Lynch, said: "This review should have been carried out years ago. The latest problems are disappointing but not totally out of character. They must be hoping a bid will come along but I-think it is un-

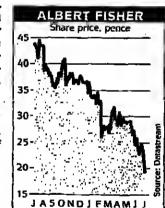
Albert Fisher reported problems in four main areas. These

The sale of salad products had been low due to bad weather, while frozen foods were hit by a poor pea crop; Fruit prices had been lower

than expected, while new sourcing operations had suffered from teething problems and higher financing costs: Raw materials prices con-

tinued to be volatile in North America; and

The unwinding of the EU prawn ban had created market



BA warns of blocking tactics New reverse at Car Group

THE CHAIRMAN of British Airways, Sir Colin Marstiall, yesterday warned shareholders to prepare for a bumpy ride between oow and the autumn as rival airlines try to hlock its alliance with American Airlines.

Sir Colin told the company's annual meeting: "We can be sure of a tense and frenetic period in which rival forces will be mobilised against us."

The BA-AA alliance has received conditional approval from the European Commissioo and the UK Government, and is due to be ruled on by the US Department of Transportation in September. Sir Colin said he was "hope-

By MICHAEL HARRISON

fui" of a decision by then, adding that "the eod is in sight to a frustrating period when we were blocked in Brussels, while competitors' transatlantic alliances were allowed to go ahead and - quite literally gang up oo us".

The BA chairman repeated BA's view that the conditions imposed on the alliance by the EU Competition Commissioner, Karel Van Miert, were "too severe". Mr Van Miert has said the two carriers must surrender 267 take-off and landing slots at Heathrow and Gatwick to rival carriers for free.

He has also insisted that BA and AA reduce their services on key transatiantic routes between London and Chicago, Dallas and Miami by more than traif for a six-month period.

The Commission is expected to make its formal recommeodations on the alliance in early autumn. But rival carriers, led by Virgin Atlantic and Delta of the US, have served notice that they will fight hard to ensure the conditions are beefed up.

Sir Colin would oot confirm that Airbus had beaten Boeing to a £2bn order for up to 100 aircraft for BA's regional European routes. But he said the competition was nearing its end.

CAR GROUP, the used car supermarket business which issued a dire profits warning a month ago, reversed further vesterday after a trading update

failed to appease investors. The company's stares fell another 7p to 54.5p after a statement that bad been intended to calm market fears. "Whilst the market for used

car sales continues to be difficult, vehicle sales over the last four weeks have been running at about 750 per week," the company said. It repeated its June warning that its results for the year to August will be "substantially affected" by lower car sales in the next six weeks.

BY NIGEL COPE Associate City Editor

The company said its board was to meet shortly to consider the results of its review, and would make a fuller statement to the Londoo Stock Exchange next week. The shares were priced at 138p when the company came to the market less than two years ago.

Car Group's shares have been in the grip of a bear raid by Simon Cawkwell, the investor known in the market as "Evil Knievel". He sold 20,000 shares at 55p and 52p yesterday and predicted that the company's August trading update would be

negative. "He is entitled to his opinion," said Peter Floyd, Car

Group finance director. In June, Car Group shares fell hy 44 per cent after it said its sales had been hit by depressed demand in the used car market which had seen prices on some models drop by 10 per cent between April and June. Warning of "recessionary conditions" in some parts of the country, Car Group said the strong pound had had a significant impact on demand in the manufacturing heartlands of the country.

Before yesterday analysts were forecasting profits of £4.5m to £5m this year.

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

FOOTSIE surged 142 points to 6,100.2, its biggest gain this year. It is only 5.6 below its peak, hit in April. Weaker inflation numbers and more evidence of deteriorating retail sales fuelled hopes interest rates have peaked. New York's early strength as well as the more encouraging outlook for Japan and Russia also contributed to the euphoria. Banks led the charge. Expectations of bumper profits later this mooth and revived takeover talk pushed banking shares, weak recently, up nearly 5

Derek Pain, page 23

NEW YORK

US stocks rose, buoyed by a round of corporate results which topped analysts expactations.

The Dow rose 107.36 points, or 1.2 per cent, to 9203.67 in midday trading, led by JP Morgan. The investment bank rose 2-3/4 after reporting profits well ahead of analysts' forecasts. The Standard & Poor's index gained 9.72 points to 1174.91, while the Nsdaq index climbed for a fifth day running. putting on 4.16 points to 1969.69.

A weaker-than-expected consumer price figure for June helped to boost stocks.

TOKYO

THE Japanese stock market rose for a second day after a senior government adviser called for 8 trillion yen (\$42.4bn) in tax cuts to

revive the country's ailing economy. The Nikkei index rose 128,52 points to 16,488.91 while the broader Topix index gained 10.21 points to 1266.65

The two indexes were boosted by comments from Hiroshi Kato, the head of the government's tax reform panel, who said that Japan needs 4 trillion yen in income tax cuts and 2 trillion yen in corporate

INDONESIA

JAKARTA's stock exchange ended higher yesterday as the Indonesian rupiah rose on news that the IMF would vote today on a \$1hn rescue package. The composite index closed up 4.2 points at 463.87, led by rises in state miner Aneka Tambang and in a number of second liners.

The IMF also said that it expected a further \$4-6bn from international donors to arrive soon. The news sent the rupiah to 14,550 to the dollar, up from the 15,300 reached in late Monday

GERMANY

THE GERMAN benchmark DAX

Xetra index yesterday rose to a record for a second consecutive day, with banking stocks among the highest risers following the approval of an IMF rescue package for the troubled Russia economy. The index closed up 79.32 points, or 1.32 per cent, to an all-time high of 8,102,62, its higgest one-day jump for two and a haif weeks. Russia is one of Germany's largest trading partners and its latest woes have depressed the German mark and the equity .

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early Soviet Five Year Plans.

earmarked £3.6bn to housing estate

extra £1hn for science, once com-

mitted to a £44m rise in spending

on the World Service, and so on and

To be fair, this was what the Gov-

ernment was elected to do, and at

present, the state of the economy

and the public finances seem just

about able to support the

programme. Furthermore, the Gov-

ernment may actually be introduc-

ing a much needed element of

stability into the economy by break-

ing with the annual spending round

cease to justify such largess.

Tide finally turns for public sector PREDICTING THE future is always a mug's game. The best laid plans invariably go wrong. The Chancel-lor looks destined to find this out the hard way, having vesterday hed himself into grandlose long-term All that said, the overall balance of the package seems reasonable enough. Provided the Government can, as it promises, confine the extra snending lawselvit morth. All that said, the overall balance of the package seems reasonable enough. Provided the Government can, as it promises, confine the extra snending lawselvit morth. All that said, the overall balance of the package seems reasonable enough. Provided the Government can, as it promises, confine the extra snending lawselvit morth. The measurement spen said numbers of the package seems to be gently foundering in a sea of contradictions. The measurement spen said numbers of the package seems to be gently foundering in a sea of contradictions.

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OUTLOOK

5 per cent a year, having announced "the largest bospital building programme in NHS history", having and the uncertainty that always surrounded it. Unfortunately, the plans improvements, having pledged an leave virtually no room for error, the prospect of the Chancellor coming in on-hudget three years hence therefore seems about as likely as so forth, it's very hard to go back on a month of Sundays. The only quesit all when economic conditions tion is how much off it we'll be.

The Government has failed to find any savings at all in the social security budget, despite the mileage Labour made out of this issue ahead of the election. And in order to get the figures to add up, it has been forced to resort both to selling off assets and to a degree of creative accounting. Reduced deht interest payments have heen treated as extra spending money.

vestment, and it doesn't all get eaten up in extra public sector pay and employment, then nobody in the City is going to complain too much about the way the money is

being thrown around. None the less, no one should under-estimate the significance of what was announced yesterday. After 19 years of siege, of attempting to bold back or reduce government spending, the public sector has finally been judged as some-thing worth investing in once more. This is quite a change and we know not yet where it will lead us.

Muddle over savings reforms

GOVERNMENT POLICY on savings is in a mess. The savings industry knows it better than anyone. Labour came to power filled with good intentions, determined to provide the sort of incentives necessary to make the less well-off save more

are so much on the back foot these days, so discredited by the pensions mis-selling scandal, such an object of public contempt, that they seem powerless to warn the Government of the traps that lie ahead; nobody wants to listen to them.

The higgest problem is this. The Government plans shortly to introduce a new tax-efficient savings plan, the Individual Savings Account, to replace Tessas and Peps, which it rightly sees as too skewed towards middle class savers, those that don't need to be given a tax incentive to save.

Fair enough, but when combined with the abolition of tax credits on dividends, the effect is substantially to reduce the tax break compared to these older established products. It may be that the middle classes don't need tax hreaks to save, but it is not clear the ISA is sufficient an advance on what went before in terms of access and flexibility to attract the lower paid either.

ISAs would in any case become an irrelevance if the Government inwheeled into the cold light of day this autumn. The industry is deeply di-

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vided over the idea of compulsion. the prospect of all that extra business having to be weighed against the realisation that the Government won't allow life companies to charge more than a pittance for it. One thing is certain, however Compulsion will kill the rest of the savings industry stone dead, ISAs

along with it. The danger with the stakebolder pension has always been that people will regard it both as a subshitute for other forms of savings and in itself a sufficient safety net for old age, obviating the need for any additional saving. That's been the experience in Australia where the rest of the savings industry has died since compulsory saving for pensions was introduced.

The painful truth is that the lowpaid find it difficult to save, period. It may be that the Government will improve the situation a little with a mpulsory stakeholder pension. but Peter Lilley's radical plan to privatise the state pension and switch it to a fully funded basis, so derid- cently as April has disappeared like

Albert Fisher's list of excuses

IT IS UNUSUAL for a company to announce a "fundamental strategic and financial review" in response to what are described as short-term and presumably therefore temporary setbacks. But the food group Albert Fisher long since ceased to be the usual sort of company.

The profit warnings have come thick and fast over the years while the excuses have grown as exotic as the sources it serves up with its succulent seafood dishes. Previous explanations have included frozen cockle beds and lettuce gluts. This time around the culprits are the weather and the European Union, which have left Albert Fisher short on peas and long on prawns. The English summer has not belped, creating a veritable mountain of unsold salad, while El Nino is proba-

bly in the mix somewhere The upshot is that that the recovery which was promised as re-

chicken nuggets at a children's party. The management cannot even tell us what trading will be like this month let alone next,

The raw prawns in all this have heen shareholders who bave watched the share price underperform the market by 85 per cent since Stephen Walls took the helm six years ago. Mr Walls, who still managed to pocket £359,000 last year for his troubles, has mercifully agreed to do the decent thing and pack his bags.

But it is not apparent that the remaining management can pull the fat out of the fire. The man from Mars, Neil England, has been there 18 months and has nothing to show but a series of phantom deals to go with the phantom profits - like the failed offer from the US food group Chiquita and the buyout of the fish business which never materialised.

Hence the fundamental review. One option would be to dispose of the fresh produce arm, which operates in a fragmented market where margins are notoriously thin, and concentrate on food processing. That may be the solution the independent consultants and Lazards come up with but not before their fees have nibbled a bit more off the shrinking dividend.

News Analysis: Dog food is the latest bone of contention between the supermarkets and high-priced brands

sh plunge Asda bites back in prices battle

BY NIGEL COPE **Associate City Editor**

ASDA HAS fired another shot in the supermarket battle against higher-priced consumer brands with plans to cut the price of a premium-priced pet food and launch its own lower-priced alternative, after being refused supply by the manufacturer. Asda has obtained a limited

supply of Eukanuba dog food from the European grey market and will start selling the bags in 15 stores at up to 15 per cent off on Thursday. The supermarket group thinks its initial stock will last about a week hut expects subsequent supplies to be blocked by the manufacturer. which prefers to sell its product through veterinary surgeries and specialist pet shops.

"We sent four letters to Jams UK [the manufacturer] seeking supplies but we never heard back." Asda said. "It is pretty clear that they don't want to supply us. They obviously don't want their products sold in a supermarket environment.

Asda's latest assault on Righer prices comes just two tays ahead of a key European court ruling, which will determine whether UK supermarkets can source higher-value brands from markets outside the European Union.

The ruling relates to a dispute between the Austrian sunglasses hrand Silhouette and the retailer Hartlauer. Hartlauer bought sunglasses from a Bulgarian distributor to sell at a discount, but the European Court's advocate general said a 1998 European trademark directive meant that any tradehark owner within the EU can prevent its products from being imported into EU countries without its consent.

Car Grow The European Court is expected to adopt the advocate general's opinion in its ruling on Thursday. Asda said: "If that happens it will make it very difficult for UK supermarkets to obtain grey market supplies from outside the EU."

Asda says the US is the higgest source of grey market products while Tesco has pregiously secured supplies of Levi ans from Mexico, against the

manufacturer's wishes. Branded goods find their way on to the grey market via a variety if sources. Sometimes they come from the manufacturers themselves, which are keen to sell end-of-line stock or ranges which have not sold well. Other sources include retailers, which may deliberately over-order from manufacturers and then sell surplus





Eukanuba(3kg)	Asda	Specialist pet shop
Junior	£9.39	£10 99
Puppy	£9.89	£10.99
Regular	£8.79	£9.79
	Tesco	High Street
Levi 501s	£30	£49
Adidas 3 stripe youth T-shirt Nike mens's	£11	£15.99
Trimax Trainers	£45	€79 99
Ralph Lauren chino shirt	£35	£75
England Umbro		









Asda is fighting over the price of gourmet dog food (top left). Meanwhile Tesco finds cut-price supplies of brands such as (left to right) Adidas, Calvin Klien and Tommy Hilfiger

stock on to the grey market for a quick profit. Licensed factories may also produce more of the hranded goods than their licence stipulates and sell the

Catrin Turner, head of intellectual property at the litigation experts Davies Arnold Cooper, warned that a ban on grey market imports would "place a fence around Europe and have a massive impact on both retailers and consumers". She said retailers that kept pushing on this issue would face legal action from brand owners.

Asda has led campaigns against price maintenance of

books and over-the-counter medicines. Meanwhile Tesco has consistently used the grey market to gain cut-price supplies of hrands such as Tommy Hilfiger, Nike. Levi's, Adidas and Calvin Klein, after being denied stock from the

manufacturer. Asda will be selling Eukanuba dog food at prices up to £1.60 lower than those typically charged by specialist pet shops. It has also launched its own gourmet brand called Asda Hero Nutrition Plan, at prices it claims are up to 30 per cent cheaper than rivals. "We are the dog owner's best friend," says

Richard Baker, Asda's deputy trading director.

The pricing and supply policies of hranded goods companies are becoming an increasingly contentious issue, which has attracted the attention of the UK competition authorities as well as the consumer affairs minister, Nigel Griffiths.

Retail price maintenance is illegal, the only exemption being over-the-counter medicines and vitamins. However, this has been referred to the Restrictive Practices Court by the Office of Fair Trading and the exemption

But though recommended retail prices are against the law, restricting supply is not. Branded goods companies like Levi's. Nike and Tommy Hilliger refuse to supply supermarket chains, claiming they are unsuitable environments for their products and that and that the staff lack the specialist knowledge required.

But though the government and consumer groups frequently lambast manufacturers for high prices, it still happens all the time. Superdrug lost a famous battle when perfume manufacturers protested to the cut-price Tommy Hilfiger cloth- date, they say, and a popular Office of Fair Trading that the

fragrances at lower prices. They complained that Superdrug was not a suitable environment in which to sell their products and won.

The OFT recently ordered Le Coq Sportif to stop fixing the price of its £40 football shirts but the manufacturer was unrepentant: "We broke the law, but commercially, I don't see anything wrong in charging a proper price for a highly sought-after brand name," the company said.

When Tesco started stocking ing, the American company hit choice.

chain was selling their back with a lawsuit alleging the goods were counterfeit. Tesco maintains that the goods were genuine

Tesco makes the point that the hranded goods companies are inconsistent in their supply criteria. "You can huy Levi's and Nikes through direct mail catalogues and over the Internet. Where is the specialist advice there? All we want is a level playing field."

Consumer groups wonder where the supermarket groups might turn next. Compact discs would seem an obvious candi-

IN BRIEF

US shows signs of slowdown

THE US economy showed signs of slowing in June as retail sales decelerated markedly, growing a bare 0.1 per cent compared with an advance of 1.2 per cent in May, and high street sales actually fell,

Inflation also slowed further in June, with the consumer price index rising by only 0.1 per cent. Inflation ran an annual rate of 1.4 per cent in the first half. Falling energy costs bave helped to keep prices down, as bave economic and currency weaknesses in Asia, This externally-induced deflation is one factor helping to keep the US economy on its current path of high growth and low inflation.

Ecocomists expect growth to slow from 5.4 per cent in the first quarter to a rate around 2 per cent in the second balf of the year.

£30m Asian loan

THE European Investment Bank will lend 45m ecu (£30m) to Indonesia to upgrade and extend the water supply system in east Jakarta, the European Union said. The loan covers around 21 per cent of the cost of the five-year project undertaken by PT Kekar Thames Airindo in a joint venture with Thames Water.

Colt network

COLT TELECOM said it has completed its initial network and is ready to launch its commercial service in Brussels, Belgium. The initial 16 route kilometres of digital fibre-optic network covers the commercial. financial and administrative areas. Colt said it plans to at least double the size of its Brussels network before the end of this year.

Cendant errors

CENDANT, the US group that has agreed to buy RAC Motoring Services for \$737m (£450m), cut its 1997 earnings by twice as much as expected after revealing that accounting irregularities at its CUC International unit ran deeper than previously disclosed.

Its stock earlier fell 26 per cent to \$14, the lowest since December 1994, after a delayed opening on the New York Stock Exchange. The company said an audit found errors "with an intent to deceive" at CUC that included "fictitious revenues", false coding to inflate revenue and profit and delayed recognition of refunds.

Scottish bond SCOTTISH LIFE yesterday

launched a limited issue high-income bond combining a fixed annual income of 9 per cent net of tax for up to five years, with full return of capital if in the next five vears the London and Zurich stock indices rise by less than 40 per cent of the past 10 years' average, and some capital growth if growth is over half the 10-year average. It avoids the new Treasury ban on the sale of multi-index bonds, which guarantee full capital return if a number of

Insurers 'load charges' on pension top-up schemes

SOME OF Britain's biggest By ANDREW VERITY insurers are loading heavy charges nn pension top-up schemes they offer to companies, in some cases reducing in-

A survey of top-up schemes run by employers showed some insurance companies charge up to 9 per cent a year to manage them - enough to wipe out

most or all of the interest earned on the fund.

Among the worst offenders vestment returns to almost are Norwich Union, Guardian nothing, it emerged yesterday. and Legal & General, which charges more than 6 per cent annually for a five-year investment of £25 a month into its

with-profits fund. Royal & Sun Alliance and

Scottish Mutual, owned by Abbey National, charge between 5 and 7 per cent over five by Watson Wyatt, the pension fund consultancy.

Savers who put in small amounts of money over three years could even find they get less out of some top-up schemes than they have saved - despite good investment returns.

pension schemes that they provider for their members." years, according to the survey must be vigilant when they pick an insurance company to run a top-up scheme.

Andy Parker, principal in financial services, said: "Our findings on charges and performance show that trustees can take nothing for granted and they have an increasingly Life would only reduce invest- more than 25 a month.

Where savers put aside £25

a month for five years, Norwich Union, Professional Life and Guardian all charge enough to wipe out investment gains of up to 8 per cent a year.

In contrast, top-ups run by

Watson Wyatt yesterday difficult task in choosing the ment returns by less than 2 per 3.9 points off the interest rate earned.

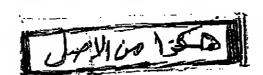
Norwich Union, which manages over £100m of pension top-up money, said it charged less in an alternative scheme designed for short-term savers. And charges had less of an im-Clerical Medical or Equitable pact when savers put away

- E)

Watson Wyatt's findings will warned trustees of company most appropriate scheme cent. On average, charges took add fuel to the debate on whether there has been widespread mis-selling of the top-up schemes, known as additional voluntary contributions (AVCs).

While some schemes had beavy charges, Watson Wyatt found that most employers' schemes were much cheaper than personal top-up schemes, known as "free-standing" AVCs. | indices do not fall.

Consider Fundamental Lists Figure 1, 1977 1977 1971 1971 1972 1973 1974 1974 1974 1974 1974 1974 1974 1974	Second	Figh income 22 23 0 19 10 0 X 50
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General Motors files lawsuit as strikes cost \$1.2bn

BY ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington jave paralysed its operations, the company said yesterday. In Strikes at two plants in Flint, an effort to end the problem, it said it would take the case to duction since June 5.

Michigan, have crippled pro-

The world's largest car that the strikes would be over maker said that it earned by the time the workforce re-The company had hoped \$389m in the second quarter of turned from the two-week 1998, compared with an adjusted \$2bn one year ago. only three of its assembly

plants in North America were able to reopen.

"Obviously, our financial performance in the second quarter of 1998 was severely impacted by the UAW strikes against our plants in Flint, and was certainly not representative of the positive momentum our financial performance had been huilding," said GM's Chairman, Jack Smith.

The figures represent 54 vest \$300m, which would safecents a share, compared with \$2.62 a share last year. The company lost production of 227,000 cars and trucks, and 165,000 workers were laid off because of the strikes.

The confrontation with the United Auto Workers centres on the Flint stamping plant, where the union says GM has reneged on commitments to in- no progress on the key issue -

guard the plant's future. But GM says that current work practices make the plant unprofitable. At another Flint plant which makes parts, union officials accuse GM of wanting

to ship work out of the plant. Negotiations over the weekend ended without agreement. and there has apparently been

Flint plant, GM's least efficient. Yesterday in an effort to break

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the deadlock. GM filed a lawsuit that would seek immediate arbitration. It claims the strikes violate a no-strike agreement between the UAW and GM, because they are over national issues. The union contends that they are local problems, related to particular plants.

The strikes come as GM's imports from Asia, but cost-cut-American rivals are recording ting and high operating rates improved results. Chrysler, the third-ranking car manufacturer, which is to merge with Germany's Daimler Benz, announced on Monday record profits of \$1bn in the second quarter. The car industry has

been hit by a wave of dis-

counting and sales incentives.

partly sparked by lower-price

helped to keep profits up.

Last year it was Chrysler which was hit by strikes, so the figures represent a considerable improvement, from 70 cents a share last year to \$1.51 this year. Ford is to release its second quarter earnings figures today. with analysts expecting similarly strong results.

Crown Estate profits soar to £113m

THE CROWN ESTATE, which by Francesco Guerrera By Francesco Guerrera buildings and land portfolio, made rose from £104.5m to £109.9m a record profit last year as a booming property market sent

rents soaring.
The Estate yesterday reported a 10 per cent rise in profits to £113.2m, which will tradition. Although the Es- capital investment protate's properties, which range from the hulk of London's Regent Street to half of the country's river beds, are nominally owned by the monarch, every sovereign since 1760 has opted to return the money to the Exchequer "for the benefit of

e taxpayer". The main driver of profit growth was the Estate's urban property portfolio, which includes offices and shops in the West End and the City of London, as well as shops in Leamington Spa, Cheltenham. Worcester and Altrincham.

rose from £104.5m to £109.9m with the value of its properties shooting up to £2.2hn from

Christopher Howes, chief executive, said the Estate had benefited from a combination be handed to the Treasury in of soaring reots in its prime keeping with a centuries-long urban sites and its long-term gramme.

We got the payback from quite a lot of capital investment over the past years. In Regent Street alone we have spent £250m in five years," Mr Howes said. The Estate, which owns every Regent Street building between Oxford Circus and Piccadilly Circus, is consulting local authorities and pressure groups on plans to reduce traffic in the area, which include pedestrianisation of the whole street.

Mr Howes said the urban estate profits were also boost-Turnover in the urban estate ed by the increase in rental



Soaring rents in the Crown Estate's property portfolio, which includes the bulk of London's Regent Street (above), sent profits soaring. The money the Estate earns is handed over to the Treasury

values of properties bought during the recession of the early 1990s. But be sounded a note of caution over the future of the property market in central Londoo, noting that although steady growth is forecast, "the challenge will be to sustain this in 1999 and be-

the level of lending by hanks to commercial developers and warned that a repeat of the over-expansion of the 1980s could prove costly for a number of companies.

Other parts of the Estate had a mixed year, with the marine portfolio, which includes more than 2,735 km of fore- income derived from telecom ficencies and new lettings. Cima's new president, Peter er accountancy bodies, the Each of coast companies, which pay the ficiencies and new lettings. Laybe, has said the profession Scottish and Irisb institutes.

ed a fall in revenue to £22.1m. foreshore. Most of the marine estate income comes from sand and gravel extraction, which has been experiencing a steady decline since the mid-1990s.

The decrease was partially offset hy steady growth in the

touched by tidal water - post- Estate to lay cables across the

The rural estate, which owns 120,000 hectares of land, was hit hy falling crop prices and the strong pound, which caused a £7m fall in value to £380m. However, revenue increased hy 9.8 per cent to

Baldwins gains a market lift-off

IT WAS second time lucky for whose shares yesterday suc- 7.4, or 9.5 fully taxed. cessfully floated on the stock market at a 10 per cent premium, writes Terry Macalister.

The Slough-based crane operator failed to lift off early platforms in coming years. in 1996 when it first came to market. But a strong £4.1m pre-tax profits performance over the past 12 months ensured success this time as the shares, placed at 112p, climbed

to 127p before closing at 125p. Charterhouse Tilney, which advised on the float, said investors were attracted by the family-controlled company's prospects. The City was also keeo on the relatively low placing price for the shares, which

valued the company at £33.4m. Baldwins Industrial Services It has a price/earnings ratio of

Baldwins' cranes are expected to find strong demand from the oil industry which has to dismantle several North Sea

The company, still 77 per cent owned by the Baldwin family, sees opportunities to expand from crane operations into project management.

Baldwins operates 120 small mobile cranes, 19 large ones and 62 tower cranes. Heavy cranes used by a range of industries are most profitable. The company says it is not over-exposed to a construction downturn as the industry accounts for only 35 per cent of its business.

Accountancy bodies to merge

THE second-largest accoun- needs to he rationalised. All merger with two of its rival bodies that could lead to there being just two professional groups hy the end of next year, writes Paul Gosling.

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (Acca) is 2000. The amalgamated body calling for a "merger of equals" with the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants although examinations would (Cima) and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (Cipfa).

The proposal has not been formally endorsed by Cima and made with their co-operation.

tancy institution is proposing a 120,000 members of the three institutes have been written to by Acca and asked to respood within 10 weeks.

If majorities of the three memberships support the idea the merger could be in place by would take a new name and create a single new qualification, be split into audit, business and public sector specialisms.

Acca expects the largest group, the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England Cipfa, but Acca says it is being and Wales, to merge in future with the remaining two small-

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It's **Time**

Flying Flowers wilts on mail-order setback

PAUL FRASER, the man who sold the stamp dealer, Stanley Gibbons, to Flying Flowers three months ago for £13.5m in shares at 502p each, must be cursing his luck or judgement.

Out of a clear hlue sky, Flying Flowers issued a profits warning yesterday. The shares plunged from 550p to 300p. almost halving the value of his To rub salt in the wound, four

other directors sold 3 million shares between them at the top the market just days after Stanley Gibbons was acquired. The chief executive, Tim Dunningham. sold 400,000 shares for £2.2m although he retained 2.4 million shares or 10 per cent

The chairman, and former director general of the Institute of Directors, Walter Goldsmith. said yesterday that profits in the full year would still be higher than last year's £6.25m but substantially less than the £8.7m to

NATIONWIDE is set to finesse

moves hy carpetbaggers to

swing the vote on converting to

a bank by bringing forward the

announcement of its hoard

to persuade members to vote

for a windfall, Nationwide is

poised to announce the out-

come of elections to the board

of directors a day ahead of the

Over 4.5 million members of

e world's biggest building

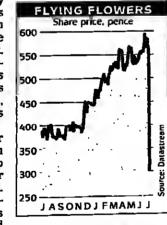
ciety are voting on elections

full vote on conversion.

In a bid to forestall attempts

election result.

BY CLIFFORD GERMAN



£8.9m the City had expected. Most of the group's businesses, including the original core of selling cut flowers by mail order, are growing in line with forecasts, and the setback is wholly due to problems in the previously successful Gardening Direct division, which sells

Nationwide to finesse voting

cluding the candidacy of

Michael Hardern, the eccentric

part-time butler, and Andrew

Muir, an aspiring recruitment

In a poll involving more peo-

ple than the referendum on a

Welsh parliament, they are also

The outcome of elections to

deadline for members to return 600,000 carpetbaggers have be-

the board of directors will be

known by 22 July, a day after the

voting on resolutions urging the

board to convert to a bank.

By Andrew Verity

consultant from Slough.

bedding plants by mail order and accounted for about 30 per cent of group sales and profits

Repeat sales to established customers via the company's highly-prized computer database continue to grow, hut the response to the group's direct advertising in the crucial first half of the year was mysteriously low key. The company declined to say whether the poor weather, rising interest rates or marketing errors were responsible.

Advertising spending on Gardening Direct in the first half increased hy almost 50 per cent to £1.9m, but resulting sales were slightly down after growing hy 150 per cent in the first half of 1997. Large amounts of stock bought in to meet anticipated sales had to be

thrown away. Analysts scaled back fullyear profit forecasts to £6.5m. Shares in other garden centre companies fell in response.

three resolutions urging the

board to take immediate steps

to convert to a bank will not he

officially decided until 23 July

when a proxy vote will take

place after a debate at Nation-

wide's annual general meeting.

If Mr Hardern or Mr Muir fail

to be elected, their credibility at

the AGM will be undermined.

cerned that supporters of mu-

tuality will fail to vote because

Mr Hardern was convincingly

beaten last year. Since then

Nationwide's board is con-

MMC extends mobile pricing review

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

THE COST of calling mobile phones looks set to remain high until the end of the year after the Monopolies and Mergers Commission yesterday asked for another three months to complete its investigation into the issue.

David Edmonds, Director General of Oftel, the telecoms watchdog, agreed to the request, which means that the MMC does not have to issue its conclusions until December. Oftel said the MMC had

asked for more time hecause the issues raised by the inquiry were more wide-ranging than cases where the dispute involved a single operator. Industry sources said that

some of the companies involved in the inquiry, which covers charges levied by British Tele com. Vodafone and Cellnet. were having difficulty in providing the MMC with the information it requires.

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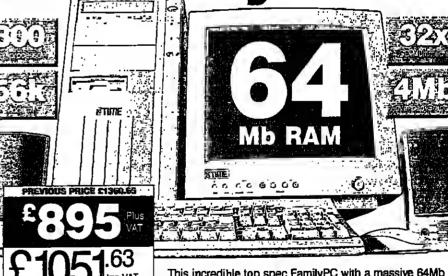
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They added that the MMC was struggling to understand the mobile phone industry's complex charging structure in the six-month period originally allowed by Oftel.

Mobile phone stocks rose as investors anticipated that the companies will he able to keep their charges higher for longer. Shares ut Vodafone jumped by 42.5p to 840p while British Telecom, which has a controlling stake in Cellnet, rose by 22p to

The issue of the cost of calls to mobile phones was referred to the MMC in March by Don Cruickshank, the former Oftel leader. At the time he said customers were being "ripped off" by high charges and suggested that calling a mobile phone during the day should cost no more than 20p a minute, compared to about 30p a minute at the moment.

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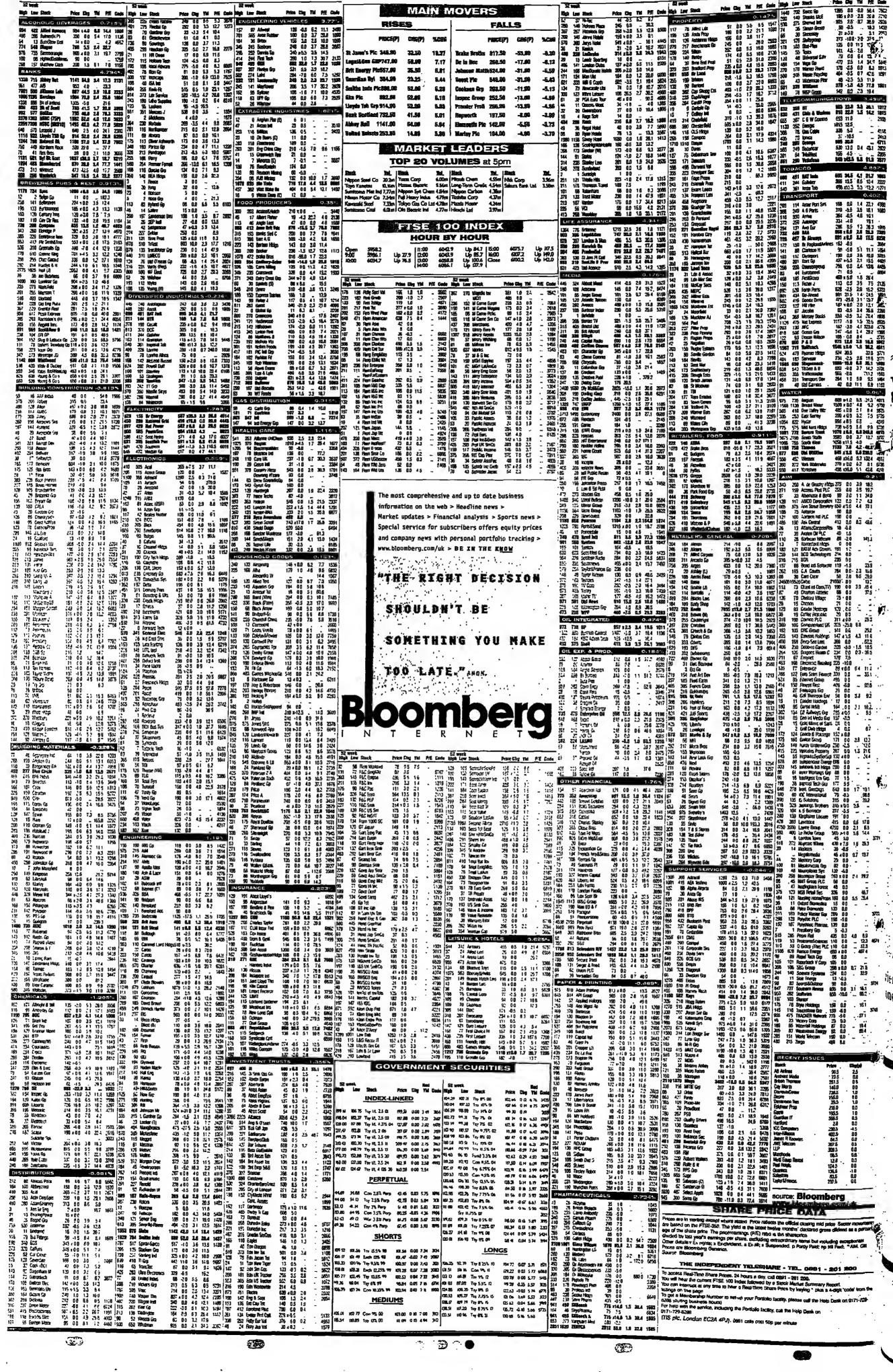
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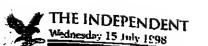




come eligible to vote. their postal ballot forms. But the board of directors, in-COMPANY RESULTS Ex-Dividend Pay day Pre-tax (£) Turnover (£) 09 10 98 1.34p (1.54p) 2.23m (2.52m) 49.66m (48.30m) 11 759 (10 00) 31.46m (25.51m) 6.622m (5.876m) 202.38m (139.03m) 01.09.98 6.6p (-) 33.7p (31 7p) nii (nii) 25p (25p) -14.4p (-61.7p) -4,407m (-9.450m) 27 07 98 35 53m (44.94m) 30 10 98 2.486m (0.889m) 67 98m (52 98m) 34.11a (27.60p) 17.25p (10.0p) 09 09 98 8.424m (6.944m) 78.80m (60.48m) 15.14p (13.75p) 26.69p (22.32p) "Dividend to be paid as a RD



صكدا من الاصل



Market gorges on a blue-chip feast

BLUE CHIPS were in rampant form, with Footsie surging 142 points to 6,100.2, just 5.6 below the record hit

It was, for the stock market, a gluttonous good news day. Weak inflation figures, together with more evidence that retail sales are under pressure, fuelled hopes that interest rates have peaked. New York, during London bours, was in irresistible form and the improved outlook for Japan and Russia were other influences.

A weaker display by sterling, giving a push to hard-pressed currency sensitive groups, also contributed to the euphoria.

So did a sudden appreciation that the banks are preparing for a bumper profits season, a rather mild report from the water industry regulator, and even an extension to a mocopoly probe into mobile phone charges. The Footsie surge. the best since stories of Britain joining EMU started circulating last autumn, added £28.67bn to share values, Datastream calculated.

But some traders remained cautious. Trading was not particularly heavy and conditions were decidedly



squeezy. Polarisation was again the name of the game. Within Footsie. it was the financials with a little help from telecoms which spurred the advance. Away from the blue chips there was little excitement.

The mid cap index managed a somnolent 20.1 gain to 5,658.1. And the small cap measurement achieved a mere 0.2 gain to 2,576.8. Legal & General, the insurer, led

the Footsie charge with a 50p gain to 747p but hanks, a little subdued lately, were prominent, scoring a near 5 per cent advance. Lloyds TSB jumped 52p to 914p; Bank nf drink from PepsiCo.

Scotland 41.5p to 732.5p and Abbey SHARE SPOTLIGHT Natinnal 64p to 1,141p. Alliance & Leicester rose a further 44.5p to 887p. More talk of industry consolidation also provided support.

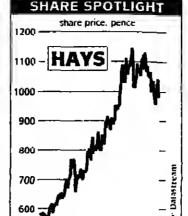
Fund manager Perpetual was 100p higher at 4,137.5p with some suggesting the bewhiskered hid candidate was at last near to takeover action - Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs were mentioned as the most likely predators.

GKN, reflecting sterling and Henderson Crosthwaite huy advice, put on 52p to 892p, and Vodafone, with a 42.5p gain to 840p, had the best dialling tone.

British Energy flared 35.5p to 557p. Morgan Stanley put out a 760p target and suggested the recent weakness - the shares have fallen from 606p - provided a strong huy-

ing opportunity.

Hays, the business support group, was hit by a CSFB sell signal, tumbling 28p to 989p. Reuters, the information group, fell 12p to 661.5p after house broker ABN Amro cut its profits forecast from £613m to £595m. Cadbury Schweppes, off 14p to 948p, was ruffled by talk of a new soft



Profits warnings scorched two shares on the undercard. Persistent underachiever the Albert Fisher food group collapsed 4.25p (after 6.5p) to 19p following another warning. Flying Flowers was even more bedraggled, cut 250p to 330p, after warning that profits would be below market hopes. Beeson Gregory promptly lowered its forecast from £8.9m to £6.5m.

JA50NDJ FMAMJJ

food shares such as Geest, starting investment presentations, off 31p to 540p. Garden centres, like Country Gardens, felt the Flowers backlash. With Charterhouse Tilney cutting its profits forecast from £5.7m to

£5.3m CG fell 4.5p to 190p. Lorien, a recruitment group, slumped 66p to 712.5p following halfyear profits in line with expectations. Another profits warning from Car Gronp, a second-hand dealer, reversed the shares 7.5p to 54.5p.

Cult Telecom's happy run continued with a 97.5p gain to 3,010p; investment meetings are due to-

Coca-Cola Beverages, the subect of some confusing trading on its debut day, fizzed a further 12p to 181p; Ryanair, making its official London debut, rose 20.5p to 524p. The company floated in Dublin in May last year, it has an ADR list-ing on Nasdau. The shares were traded on a grey market in Londoo on Friday at 483p. Bullding materials group CRH lost 5p to 879p after SBC Warburg put a 873p target oo the Irish building materials group.

Airflow Streamlines, the engi-

The Fisher experience hit other neer, fell 5p to 165p after reporting that hid talks had ended. Premier Farnell, the electrical distributor, lost 13p to 266p after a 4.5-million line was placed at 252p with institutional investors.

Telewest Communications made further headway, hardening 4.5p to 195.5p. The group's rights issue shares, to be sold at 92.5p. must he the higgest bargain in the market. The cash is needed as part of the ammunition for the take over of General Cable.

Baldwins Industrial Services. the crane-hire group, made a better-than-expected debut, stretching to 125p against a 112p placing.

Ahead of its shareholders' meeting today, at which approval is expected to sell its retail dry cleaning and photo processing chains, Sketchley fell 3p to 31p. lonica, the stricken telephone group, lost a further 10.5p to 36.5p. There had been hopes of a link with - perhaps even a hid from - a stronger group but the market suspects it has walked away

SEAQ VOLUME: 934.4 million SEAQ TRADES: 78,783 GILTS INDEX: 105.25 +0.02

CCI HOLDINGS jumped 12.5p in 125p; last year the shares nf the clay-pigeon maker hit 190p. But it seems the compa-

ny is not much longer for the rarefied world of the clay pigenn shooter. It is selling the business to three of its directors and intends to become a stock mar-

ket shell, seeking acquisitions. Simon Beart will become the £75,000-a-year chairman of CCI: he is the former finance director of Britton, the packaging and paper group.

PARALLEL PICTURES, on its way to AIM, is planning to raise up to £1.25m by offering shares at 32p. It is a film maker, and currently bas nne cinema film in pre-pro-

THE LATE night bars chain husiness, Po Na Na, gained 1p to close at 110.5p on Ofex, the fringe market. Two institutions, one of them 3i, bave taken stakes.

Goode Durrant is caught in car gloom

SHARES IN Goode Durrant, the vehicle hire company, have been stuck in reverse gear ever since Car Group and Arriva, the transport groups, warned of falling used car prices in June - a warning that Car Group repeated yesterday.

Over the past month, the stock has shed 7 per cent as the City turned gloomy on the whole sector. Goode Durrant's poor run was extended yesterday when the market took a set of results slightly below expectations - with profits rising almost 20 per cent to £29.5m - to push the shares down 25p to 472.5p.
The fall looks overdone and stems

mainly from the market's habit of tarring a number of different companies with the same brush. The bulk of Goode Durrant's fleet is in light commercial vehicles, which have not been hit hy falling prices. Cars account for only 10 per cent of the total and, unlike Arriva and First Group's fleet, are not sold when they are "nearly new" but only after they have clocked up more than 50,000 miles, putting them in a segmeot of the used-car market which has not been touched by the downturn in prices.

investors should concentrate on Goode Durrant's core business. hiring out commercial vehicles to imall and medium-sized firms, which looks promising. Over the coming years, the company will benefit from a positive double whammy as overcapacity forces manufacturers to moderate price increases and hire rates continue to grow. The hire business would also

gain from an economic downturn as more businesses choose to hire rather than huy their vans. The main threat to Goode Durrant's earnings comes from depreciation charges, which are set to wipe out around £1.5m from 1999 profits, following the company's decision to increase its depreciation level. But on a downwardly revised

1999 profit forecast of around £32m. the shares, on a multiple of 13, are still offering good value. Buy.

Lorien held back by one-off costs

THE DOWNSIDE of being viewed as a computer stock by investors is that you have to produce the growth to match. Lorien didn't and was duly punished. The consultancy and re-FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

INVESTMENT

EDITED BY PETER THAL LARSEN GOODE DURRANT GROUP: AT A GLANCE

Mai KCL Vall	ue; £285.2. s	share price:	472 5p (-2	5p)	
Trading record	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Turnover (£m)	100.7	83 3	104 9	139.0	202.4
Pre-tax profits (£m)	10.6	14.2	21.3	25.5	29.5
Earnings per share (p)	12.7	21.1	26.0	30.4	35,3
Dividends per share (p)	6.0	7.2	8.6	10.0	11.8
Minibus, 3% Panel V	ans, 42%	700			
Minibus, 3% Panel V	ans, 42%	600 — 500 —			Λ.
	ans, 42%	600			۸۰

cruitment group's share price had risen from 300p in the autumn to al- Compaq fears most 800p earlier this year. But yesterday the shares lost 8 per cent of knock Trifast their value, falling 66p to 7125p, as

tricky, because they are littered with exceptional charges. The underlying picture is that pre-tax profits rose by 13 per cent to £2.59m. But Lorien says profits were depressed by a raft of one-off costs. It reckons setting up a new division to implement eoterprise resource-planning software in small businesses, bringing all its divisions together under the Lorien hrand and setting up a new pension scheme to help it hang on to staff reduced profits by fim. Add that back and, hey presto, profits in fact rose by 55 per cent.

The problem is that Lorier's oneoff costs have a habit of recurring. It is even arguable that the £720,000 it charged for setting up a long-term share incentive plan is a normal running cost for a business in this sector.

Analysts bave not changed fullyear profit forecasts of £8m, suggesting Lorien will make up for the first-half shortfall in the next six months. But the company still has to prove that its idea of selling complete packages of consultancy, IT and staffing services can be turned into

Operating margins, curreotly a miserable 3 per cent, also need to improve. After yesterday's fall the shares trade on a forward earnings multiple of about 24. High enough for

Tippers. 16% CDV's, 26% 0 1993 94 95 96 97 98

it reported pedestrian interim results. SMALL COMPANY 5tocks are taking Hacking through the figures 15 a pounding so it takes only a bit of extra bad news to damage the high achievers. Trifast, a real growth stock which manufactures and distributes fasteners in the electrical and electronics sector, has trailed the market by 13 per cent this year.

The slump is largely down to fears about the health of the computer giant Compaq, one of Trifast's hig customers. The concern is probably overdone. It is margins, rather than volumes, which are being squeezed at Compag.

Yesterday Trifast was upbeat Malcolm Diamood, chief executive, unveiled another solid set of results with pre-tax profits up 23 per cent at £8.4m oo the back of a 30 per cent surge in sales to £78.8m. This pattern of continued profit growth has been continuous since the company was formed in 1973 and maintained through 1994 when it was floated at 200p. Yesterday, Trifast shares rose

10p to 602.5p. The group is still in expansion mode. Last year it acquired three husinesses in the UK, Malaysia and

Broker CSFB has pencilled in pretax profits of £9.2m for 1998. putting the shares on a forward multiple of 16. That is poor for a company of this calibre but, given the current uncertainties in the market just about

IN BRIEF

Higher rates erode profits at Gardiner

PROFITS AT Gardiner Group fell 6.7 per ceot to £2.23m in the six months to the end of April. reflecting a rise in interest charges on the cost of acquisitions, although sales rose 3 per cent to £49.7m.

"In the UK sales of CCTV, access control and fire products continue to grow, although the intruder market remains difficult," chairman Richard Clemons said. The market in Europe continues to grow.

Jacques Vert losses

LOSSES AT ladies' fashion retailers Jacques Vert halved to £4.4m in the year to 2 May, and sales fell by a third after the disposal of the Grace Collection and the closure of the wholesale husiness. But like-for-like sales were up 11 per cent in the first seven weeks of the current year. and the group was operating at a small profit. Two new stores and seveo coocessions are planned in the next 12 months.

Heel gets toe-caps

DINKIE HEEL has agreed to buy the steel toe-cap making husiness Cleveland Engineering, for £1.5m. The acquisition, which will make Dinkle Heel the third-largest steel toe-cap supplier in the world. is conditional on the company's application for admission to the Alternative Investment Market being approved. The shares, currently listed on the Official List, are expected to begin trading on AIM from 27 July.

Wintrust up 14%

PROFITS AT the banking and property management group. Wuitrust, were up 14 per cent to £3.9m in the year to the end of March, and earnings per share rose 20 per cent, double the previous year. There are no signs of a slowdown in the resideotial property market, the chairman Richard Szpiro claimed.

Stationery growth INTERNATIONAL GREETINGS

reported a 13 per cent rise in profits to £6.62m in the year to the end of March on sales of £53.5m. The company has bought Copywrite, a children's stationery business, from the receiver for C2.1m and signed licence agreements with Disney Mattei and Hasbro to help develop the business, which had annual revenues of #23m

FTSE International gets over-excited ...

A PRESS release has plopped on to my desk from FTSE International, welcoming the news of the link between the London Stock Exchange and its German equivalent.

Unfortunately Mark Makepeace. managing director of FTSE International, rather spoils the effect with the following comment: "We are exited [sic] by this announcement from the Loodon Stock Exchange and the Deutsche Borse ...'

Gone before they've even arrived. At least the French will be happy.

OUT OF the ashes of the old Hamhros merchant bank a new advisory houtique has arisen. Three former directors of the recently-dissolved bank have launched HSP Corporate Finance, based just off London's Piccadilly, to provide independent advice to shipping, oil and

Eivind Rabben, John Cook and Richard Trythall, all former directors of Hambros' shipping division, have put their money behind the venture, along with Clare E Hambro, Hambros. Clare is the daughter of Lord Hambro, the former chairman of the merchant bank - and wife of Eiveod Rabben.

The remaining shareholder and director is Peter Donald, previously a director of equity capital markets at NatWest Securities, the securities arm of National Westminster Bank which itself was recently sold off to Bankers Trust.

Mr Rabben says: "I've known Peter for many years - mainly from the opposite side of the table. He's strong on the new issues side, the larger shipping flotations.

As it became apparent that Societé Générale, the Freoch bank which bought the remaining hits of Hambros, was going to concentrate on the lending side of things, Mr Rabben and colleagues decided a new boutique was the answer. They never planned to take anyone else on, hut Peter and three former members of Hambros' shipping division, Erik Mathiesen, Andrew Fogle and Celia Loucaides, came knocking at the door. "Our recruiting policy is entirely opportunistic," admits Mr Rabben. "But we do want to grow this thing".

WILLIAM WARD is preparing to unveil his eight refurbished 60ft yachts next Mooday for the "Clipper '98 Round the World Yacht Race" at St

LIFFE FINANCIAL FUTURES

PEOPLE AND

BUSINESS BY JOHN WILLCOCK



Katharine's Dock, next to Tower Bridge. The venture was founded by Sir Robin Knox-Johnston, the veteran round the world sailor, three years ago, and Mr Ward bought in for £1.4m. The first race was held in 1996 and the duo floated Clipper Ventures on the Ofex market this April, raising another £300,000.

The business makes money by charging participants in the races an a former corporate finance bod at entry fee of £6,000 to £22,750, depending oo how much of the race they take part in. There are 14 crew members to each yacht plus a professional 5kipper provided by Clipper, so the business is certainly cash generative.

The next race starts on 17 October from Plymouth and circumnavigates the globe via six legs and 16 ports, including Nassau, Hawaii, Hong Kong and the Cape of Good Hope.

The husiness works on a 24mooth cycle," says Mr Ward. "At the moment we're concentrating on corporate business." Companies such as Virgin Direct, Lloyds Bank and law firm Richards Butler hire Clipper's yachts to entertain staff and clients. Mr Ward plans to huy another eight yachts, this time 40-footers, to cater for this lucrative side of things.

Mr Ward's hackground is in small-scale commercial property, and he is still based at Olney, Buck inghamshire - "about as far from the sea as you can get".

The 41-year-old Mr Ward started in husiness in his early twenties by importing cane furniture and hasketware from the Far East. That's all gone now, but he has big plans for the sailing operation: "Clipper 2000 is going to be quite something ..."

Gartmore is not allowing its row with Aberdeen Investment Trusts over the future of its Scottish National Trust to slow its headlong expansion in the US. It has just poached Dick Hoag from Bankers Trust to become managing director. husiness development of Gartmore Global Partners (GGP), the joint venture with NationsBank, one of America's biggest retail banks.

Gartmore, the NatWest subsidiary which manages over £53hn in assets, still has problems closer to bome. Abpref has launched what amounts to a hostile bid for the £595m Scottish trust, just as Gartmore was preparing to roll it over into a new trust. Which is all a long way from Mr Hoag, who will be opening a new office for GGP in New York.

GOLDMAN 5ACHS seems to have set new records in corporate hospitality last weekend, if the stories are true. Apparently, one group of Goldman clients were taken to the British Grand Prix at Silverstone on Sunday afternoon, then whisked away to the World Cup Final in the Stade de France in the evening, followed by a slap-up feed at Maxime's.

Sadly, a spokesman for Goldman is unable to confirm the story, save only to murmur: "I wish I'd gone." Never mind, perhaps next time.

COMMERZBANK is one Continental outfit that 5till believes it can build an American presence without having to buy a Wall Street hank, unlike its larger rival Deutsche. To this end Mehmet Dalman, head of Commerzhank Global Equities, has recruited the equity derivatives team from ING Barings.

The Commerzbank team will be led by Mark Richardson, who will be global head of equity derivatives and based in Loodon. He huilt ING Barings's equity derivatives operation in London and New York over the last three years from scratch.

He will work with Mike Gosling. who will huild and integrate the infrastructure. Over in the Big Apple, Joe Mahfouz will be regional head of equity derivatives in the Americas.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN caused a delay to the civil proceedings in the High Court vesterday between West Bromwich Building Society and elderly policyholders who lost out in the Home Income Plan scandal. Geoffrey Gruder QC, representing the policyholders, had to rush off to a garden party at Buckingham Palace to celebrate the anniversary of his taking silk.

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Cooper A	1637 163B	31.00	1655	1656	30	246800	-250		
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Nickel	4130 4140		4190	4200	45	60036	1		
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Vol: 0 White Sugar*	Vol: ⁽⁾ Freight	Wheat		com°	v	Sova Bo			
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Woods is taming the tiger within

By RICHARD EDMONDSON at Royal Birkdale

WHEN TIGER Woods came before us yesterday he was dressed predominantly in hlue and covered in the ticks of his Nike sponsors. He looked like Einstein's homework

The plus marks for being the young comet of golf no longer belong to the American, however. That distinction lies with Lee Westwood, who has won seven times in the last nine months and banked more prizemoney than any player on the regular tour. He'a hot.

well to consider the Woods model, though. When Tiger arrived at Troon 12 months ago he was fresh from an extravagant Masters victory. Club

selection seemed unimportant. The more pressing be what vintage he would be pouring into the claret jug on Sunday evening. Then the script deviated.

A round of 64 was surrounded by dirtier scores and the wunderkind became submerged in the pack as he tied for 24th. Woods has won this year but in comparison to the playing monster of his early professional career he has become devalued. In

majors, especially Tiger has been performing more like Ecvore, Or even Pooh.

art of mental strategy by his father Earl, a former Green Beret. His fairway behaviour, though, at its worst, is more dumkopf than Schwarzkopf. Clubs are thrown and expletives chase after them.

Westwood concentrates

on a delicate chip shot

Woods insists he has benefited from the Troon experience. He has not cut out the less admirable elements of his game. He has just stopped reading about them. "There

was a lot of pressure on me to play well, but I think that's when you live and learn and I learned from lessons last year," he said. "Like forgetting the media. I don't really read articles any more or what's on television. I figured since I've already gone through the experience I don't need another person's perspective on what I've just gone through.

"I shut myself away from that because otherwise you can get hypercritical of yourself. I know a lot of people in the media like to take shots at you for various things, nit-The man from Worksop will do you're going to take offence to that because sometimes you don't think you did anything wrong.

The Woods playing technique has also undergone a slight modifi-

cation and the new model should help him creep under the great gusts that are swirling around Southport this week. "Tve changed my preparation a little bit, worked on my swing, tried to get the plane better," he said. "I think overall my game is better and I'm flighting the ball better than I was at this time

"I'm hitting the ball lower than I ever have in my entire life. That's one of the reasons why I've been so con-

last year.

why I haven't had the really high rounds. This year my bad shots are This was the man trained in the not that bad. I am not hitting it two fairways over and stuff like that."

His tendency to veer off the main thoroughfare has had a dramatic effect on the shoe hills for the four security personnel who are constantly assigned to Woods following death threats.

It has appeared in the past that it would not take an assassin to wipe the man out. He has seemed on the verge of doing it himself. Now, Woods



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ared whis yelme

"Sometimes you have got to gut it out when you're playing bad," be said, "With that in mind I have become less tough on myself because you're going to go through some dry

> Woods and Westwood are the joint favourites to win this week at 11-1. They are also bonded by mu- of quite extraordinary pastels. After tual admiration. "He has had a great run ever since the end of last sertion that he will not get embaryear," the American says of the recent Loch Lomond victor. "He has

some really low scores, which is impressive, and been able to do it consistently. That is when you know the guy is playing really well."

Westwood, at 25, is the hrave new face of European golf. He could rarely have had a more courageous moment than yesterday's, though, when he appeared inside a jumper this, it was easy to believe his asrassed in front of a crowd on Sunday. "I'm not afraid to win and if I do get

said. "I won't be nervous coming down the stretch if I'm leading. I'm not afraid of winning and I'm not afraid of losing. If I don't win the Open this year it won't be the end of the world to me. I would dearly love to win, hut it's not life or death. It's

only a game." With his perma-smile and crumpled baseball cap, Westwood has the look of an eager forecourt attendant. He is looking forward to the customers turning out to support him this week. "It's good to have people

played extremely well and shot the opportunity I hope to take it." be walking round with you, the enthumake par, and three or four-under siasm is there with the crowd," be said. "It's a good atmosphere and if you hit it off line they will have trampled the rough down."

Westwood may have played most of his golf in his home county of Nottinghamshire, in the very heart of England, but it is competition on Britain's fringes that most takes him. "Links golf has always been my preferred golf," he said. "It's more of a challenge than when 23-under wins. I like to play tournaments where you need two good shots to the green to

wins. It's something that is either suited to your game or not. I'm trying to go into it positively, thinking that I can play links golf." Unlike Woods, Lee Westwood de

vours all the material written about him. "Occasionally I see articles I don't like, but I remember who writes them," he said. "T've got a little list at home." It is this factor which leads many writers to insist that Westwood is the most charming, delightful and talented golfer and man in the whole of Europe.

Chippers off the old block

mound near the 17th green yesterday and called for a ruling. Norman didn't like the way the ball was lying, not one little hit. "Is there a rule about hurrowing animals," the Great White Shark shouted to the crowd of about 50 spectators. "Is there any member here who can help?"

Val Moran, a vision in purple waterproofs, stepped boldly forward, inspected the ball and its habitat and told Greg what he wanted to hear: a free drop was in order.

This may have been the Junior Open, hut Norman was leaving nothing to chance. His son, Gregory, needed all the hreaks he could get. Presumably Greg named his son Gregory to avoid any confusion. At Formby Golf Chub it was not difficult to differentiate between

GREG NORMAN stood on a Watson and Norman faced each other on the links vesterday - their dads were there too. By Tim Glover

> For starters Gregory is not much taller than a burrowing animal. The shortest competitor in the Junior Open, Gregory was dwarfed by his graphite-shafted driver. Nevertheless, at the age of 12 he looked the part, even if he did have the devil of a joh getting his ball out of the rough.

Wearing a cap with his father's trademark shark emhiem on the front, he found Formhy different from any course he had ever played. Especially in a freezing gale.

Gregory, who has a handican of 14, shot 103 in the second and final round which was two strokes better than his first round. "He's a lot like his father." his teaching professional in Florida said. "He plays very

intensely, deliberately and is a driven competitor."

Little Gregory was in good company yesterday. He was playing with his friend Michael Watson, the son of Tom, and Louise Kenney, the Fife junior champion. Michael, aged 15 and with a handicap of "five or six", drives the ball miles hut he got off to a bad start in the second round before rallying. "I am happy," he said. "I played the back nine as I wanted to."

"Great shot out of there!" Tom would occasionally yell as his son blasted out of the beather "Usually," Michael said. "I don't enjoy my dad watching me play. It puts more pressure on me, although that's never his intention. It's hard having a famous father. You constantly hear people saying that's Tom Watson's son. It's hard on Gregory too."

Watson junior shot 77 after a 96 and his aggregate of 173 was matched by Louise. Also aged 15 and with a handicap of four, Louise, from Dunfermline, scored 87, 86. Never mind the pressure on Gregory and Michael, Louise had to go round Formby in the close attendance of two men who between them have won seven Open championships.

"It was a bit daunting," Louise said, "but it was also very enjoyable and a unique experience. Greg gave me some putting tips and that is something I'll never forget."

It was also a red-letter day for David Inglis, who won the event with an extraordinary round of 71 for an aggregate of 148. It is not every day that you can boast that you beat an Open field including Norman and Watson.

lacher, the former European Ryder Cup captain, Inglis, a 16year-old who plays at Glencorse, near Edinburgh, off a handicap of plus one, has a tremendous future in the game. While the Watson family re-

According to Bernard Gal-

turns to Birkdale to prepare for the Open, the Normans took a private jet back to Florida via Ireland where Greg, who is out of action until September following a shoulder operation. is designing golf courses. It is a line of employment

that appeals to Michael Watson. even if he is only 15. "I don't know if being a professional golfer would really suit me,"



Gregory Norman (left) chats with Miehael Watson during the Junior Open. Allsport

Michael said. "It's a lot harder pionship. "The wind can be than it seems on TV." He once beat his father over nine holes in Hawaii and they have been warming up for Birkdale by playing in Ballybunion.

Given the conditions, Watson believes the winner on Sunday will be over par for the cham-

E Els

Furyk

D Clarko

D Love III

your friend or your enemy," he said, "but it's going to be extremely difficult. I can't wait to out it to the test one more time." It was at Birkdale that

However, for the most part yesterday Watson's mind was on the form of his son. "Golf is not a perfect game and it was never meant to be." Tom said. "but Michael had a nicely balanced round with a very strong finish. It will be a happy meal

Ladorokes special bet: E/W 1/5 1.2.3.4.5.

0715 and 1145: J L Guepy (Fr), F Jacobson 0725 and 1155: M A Jimenez (Sp), S Duniap (US), K Tomon (Japan), 9735 and 1215: "M Kuchar (US), S Torrange, S Apolehy (Aus) S Torrance. 5 Appleby (Aus). 0745 and 1225: S Hoch (US). P Sjoland

(Swe), S Elkington (Aus). 0755 and 1235; S Stricker (US), S Ballesteros (Sp), T Watson (US). 9805 and 1245; C Pavin (US).
'Ode Vooght (Bel), K Hosokawa (Japan).
9815 and 1255; S Mayfair (US).
S Glasson (US), O Howell.

0825 and 1305; M Calcavecchia (US). J Haeggman (Swe). K Fukabori (Japan) 0835 and 1315: 5 Clnk (US), J Huston 0845 and 1325; S Estes (US), P Baker. S Ames (Tri), 0855 and 1335: B Jobe (US), R Karlsson (Swe), T Suzuki (Japan).

0905 and 1345; A Magee (US). C Montgomerie, B Crenshaw (US). 0915 and 1355: B Tway (US), C Strange

0925 and 140S: B Faxon (US). L Westwood, T Dodds (Nam). 0945 and 1415: J P Hayes (US). R Claydon, M McNuity (Zim). 0955 and 1425: T Woods (US). P-U Johansson (Swe). N Price (Zim). 1005 and 1445: M Brooks (US). O Clarke, E Romero (Arg). 1015 and 1455: P Azinger, "S Garcia (Sp),

1025 and 1505: J Furyk (US). P Harrington, S Allan (Aus). 1035 and 1515: S Jones (US). J Parnevik (Swe). P O'Malley (Aus). 1045 and 1525: L Mize (US), P McGin-1055 and 1535: G Srown, R Drummond,

1105 and 1545: G Hurcheon, S Young. 1115 and 1555: G Dodd (Aus), R Giles.

Kyoung Ju Chol (5 Kor). 1125 and 1605: F Howley, S Alker (NZ). 1155 and 1615: F Henge (Swe). C Surieson (Sp), A Clapp. 1145 and 0715 (Fri): T Levet (Fr). H Clark, S Davis. 1155 and 0725: G Brand Jnr. B May.

1215 and 0735: P Mitchell, M Campbell (NZ), P Walton. 1225 and 0745; J Leonard (US). T Bjorn (Den). O Duval (US). 1235 and 0755: S Kendall (US), 0 Carrer, C Franco (Par) 1245 and 0805:) Maggert (US). P Price. 1255 and 0215: O Love III (US). I Garrido (Sp). V Singh (Fig).

المكتاب الاحل

TEE-OFF TIMES FOR TOMORROW AND FRIDAY AT ROYAL BIRKDALE 1305 and 0825; M O'Meara (US). N Faldo. 1315 and 0835: J Durant (US), R Russell.

1325 and 0845: S Watts (US), S Lyle, 1335 and 0855: L Janzen (US). I Woosnam, C Parry (Aus), 1345 and 0905: J Daly (US), B Langer (Ger), P Stewart (US). 1355 and 0913: T Kite (US). A Coltart, F Minoza (Phil).

1405 and 0925: F Couples (US).
J M Olazabai (5p), R Allenby (Aus). 1415 and 0945; L Roberts (US), S Luna 1425 and 0955: D Hart (US). G Orr. 1445 and 1605: T Lehman (US). M James E Els (SA).

1455 and 1015: P Mickleson (US). C Rocca (It), F Nobilo (NZ). 1505 and 1025: G Player (SA), G Day (US), 1515 and 1035; O Cooper, M Long (NZ).

1525 and 1045; P Lawrie 1555 and 1055: R Bland. D Lee, M McGuire. 1545 and 1103: A McLardy (SA), A Oldcom, P Hedblom (Swe). 1555 and 1115: 'S McCarthy, J Remesy 1505 and 1125; "J Rose, S Tim B Oredge.

(GB or Ir) unless stated)

Watson won the last of his five Opens - indeed the last of his eight majors - in 1983. tonight," OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP ODDS MARKET M Calca S Cink 5 Hoch INTERESTING OUTSIDERS 25 50 33

5 Lyle H=Hills, T=Tota

O'Meara makes up for lost time

BY ANDY FARRELL at Royal Birkdale

MARK O'MEARA'S first appearance at Royal Birkdale came 11 years ago. The event was the Lawrence Batley International and O'Meara won in spectacular fashion. He holed two full seven-iron shots on the back nine, at the 11th and the 16th. "It was quite exciting." the Masters champion said. "Something I'll always re-

eran English professional who had to wait another seven years for his first victory. O'Meara found out what it was like to be in Mason's sboes when Birkdale staged the Open in 1991. The American, who tied for third place with Fred Couples, played with Ian Baker-Finch in the final round.

"It was just lan's day," O'Meara said. "He played a tried to encourage him a lot, for tremendous round of golf, about as good a nine boles as I've ever seen played on the front side." The Australian went to the turn in 29 that So will Carl Mason, the vet- sunny Sunday to win his only

has been has been well documented. Baker-Finch is back at Birkdale, but only as a television

"Before Ian went back to Australia, when he was still living in Orlando and going are not playing well, people through some of his trials and tribulations, we practised a lot together," O'Meara recalled. "I we all know what kind of person he is. He is a super gentleman and was a great asset for the game. To see what lan had to struggle through was difficult for everyone.

game, but that's what makes it so special. You are out there on your own and you don't have a team to rely on. When you are playing well and winning, then for are the top guy. When you

lend not to notice. Then, when

you are really struggling, everydy seems to nobice. Right now in the US, Chip Beck is struggling with his game and there have been others who were at the top of the game for a long time who then struggled. As these young players come through who are fiery

"Golf is such a bumbling and competitive there is more of an intimidation factor. It is so difficult to keep trying to improve your game.

O'Meara knows at first hand after practising with Tiger Woods for the past two years. The 41-year-old turned from money machine to major winner trying to keep up with the prodigy. O'Meara was surprised anew on Monday when Woods almost drove the green at the 457-yard eighth hole.

"I don't see anything too wrong with Tiger's game," O'Meara said of his predecessor as Masters champion's

petition level is very keen and there are a lot of other fine players besides Tiger Woods. I

think he understands that. "I think the true sign of a fine player is that be can dig deep and figure out what's going wrong when be's not playing well. We will see what happens this week but I think the course will suit him. I think any course suits him. There is no question that he has an advantage when it comes to power, but he can

play all the shots." As for O'Meara, winning at

quiet spell in recent majors. Augusta completed an other-What I do see is that the com-wise lucrative but unfulfilled wise lucrative but unfulfilled career. "I will always be thankful for what took place on that Sunday there," be said, "To be able to win a major was a dream come true.

"I've been playing some of my best golf for the last three years but I'm 41 and you realise you can't always play perfect golf. We can't always have fun. but realising it is not a life-anddeath situation frees yourself up a bit and you tend to play a little better

Se Ri Pak, the rapidly emerging 20-year-old South Korean on

O'Meara: Humbling game

the LPGA tour, will play at the Women's British Open at Royal Lytham and St Anne's, which starts on 13 August.

Smith

snaps

up £3m

Italian

FOOTBALL

WALTER SMITH, the new Everton manager, made his first signing last night when he paid

£3m for the Italian centre-half

Marco Materazzi from Perugia.

The 25 year old was at Goodi-

son Park yesterday for a med-

ical and to look for a house after

Materazzi was first spotted

by Smith when be was the

manager of Rangers and was

considering signing Marco

Negri. The defender is highly

rated in Italy and helped

Perugia return to Serie A last

season. The signing will put

pressure on players such as

Craig Short and Carl Tiler, who

could become available as

Smith rebuilds the Everton

ordered to pay for their new

signing Ashley Westwood by the

Football League after a dispute

that could have implications for

the transfer system in England. The First Division club were

told yesterday that they must

abide by the rules and come to

an agreement with Crewe

League registered him yester-

day after initially threatening to

refuse to process the papers

after the Bradford chairman.

Geoffrey Richmond, claimed

that new transfer rules may

breach European Commission

The League's spokesman,

Chris Hull, said: "This system

bas been agreed by all of pro-

fessional football and all clubs

bave got to adhere to it. Brad-

ford are obliged under the

agreement to pay a fee set by

Bradford could withhold

their money and test the law.

Westwood may also take legal

action for restraint of trade, but

that might mean he is unable

to continue playing. The effects

of the dispute could leave all

players of any age as free

agents at the end of their

regulations.

a tribunal."

contract.

Westwood has signed a contract at Bradford and the

Alexandra over a fee.

Bradford City bave been

BY ALAN NIXON

terms were agreed.

Briton saved by his helmet

CHRIS BOARDMAN said yesterday that be would bave suffered serious injury had be not been wearing a helmet when he crashed out of the Tour.

The 1992 Olympic gold medallist ended up in Cork's University Hospital with a broken wrist and facial injuries after a collision with a teammate sent him sliding into a roadside stone wall during Monday's second stage.

The British rider, who flew home to the Wirral last night, said be would have "nn objection" if belmets were to be made compulsory on the Tour.

"If I was unconscious with a belmet, then I don't like to think what would have happened if I had not been wearing one," Boardman said. I will continue to wear one.

That was a real lesson for me. At the moment you are not forced to wear a belmet. If they made it obligatory then I would have no objection to it, but I know a lot of my colleagues would."

Boardman, who was wearing the leader's yellow jersey at the time of the crash, had a brain scan and was detained overnight for observation.

"I remember nothing of the crash. I haven't got a clue what happened," be said. "I remember riding cross-winds, and the ing up and looking at the ceiling of the ambulance. The first thing I did was wiggle my toes - I knew then I wasn't too bad."

Boardman was more con- By ROBIN NICHOLL cerned about 11-year-old Laura Seward, who was seriously burt in a separate accident, than himself. The girl was still critically ill yesterday after sustaining serious head and other injuries when struck by one of the riders just minutes before the GAN rider came off.

25.44

100 m

"There's no way I'm going to moan about a few scratches."



Boardman displays his Tour injuries yesterday

Bo Hamburger leads a nine-man breakaway by the seaside between Roscoff and Lorient yesterday. The Casino team rider went on to claim the yellow jersey

Hamburger has day to relish

CYCLING

with the Tour de France

JENS HEPPNER became the latest "bad boy" of the 1997 Tour to restore his bonour when he foiled French chances of an extra celebration on Bastille

On Sunday the Belgian Tom Steels won, thereby going some way to compensating for his expulsion from last year's race, for throwing a plastic bottle at another rider in a sprint finish.

Then the German Erik Zabel, who was also disqualified in the same sprint in Marennes, took over the race lead on Monday.

Yesterday, his team-mate Heppner beat the Xavier Jan of France in a sprinting duel at the finale of the third stage, and the first on French soil.

Dutchman Bart Voskamp were involved in a similar hattle at Le Puy du Fou and were disqualified after leaning on each other in the final sprint.

Heppner joined a 129km escape by eight riders, with the intention of protecting team-mate Zabel's yellow jersev of Tour leader. His co-leaders were too ambitious for one man to contain, so when he realised that Zabel was about to lose his overall lead to Denmark's Bo

the offensive. "I decided to attack, and all through the last kilometre I thought about Voskamp, and I told myself not to act silly this

Hamburger missed the winning move, but scored full marks with his mathematics. He added. now leads by two seconds from

Last year Heppner and the the American George Hincapie and his co-leaders a lead of one Bleus" or, as one Breton deafter finishing fourth behind George Hincapie in the stage. They chased bome two sec-

onds after the duelling sprinters, followed by their co-leaders, but Hamburger's sprinting had picked up sufficient time bonuses to bring him to within a second of Zabel.

Hincapie was upset over the participation of Heppner and Jan in the pace-setting of the small group.

"The FDJ guy [Jan] and Telekom guy [Heppner] were sitting up all day." Hincapie said, implying that they were Hamburger, Heppner went on not pushing hard during the fast pace.

"With a sprint like that at the end it is different because everyone is so wasted except for those two other guys," he

minute and eight seconds over the German put Hamburger in pour Zizou." vellow, and he gave the credit

to his baby daughter. "Becoming a father has changed my attitude completely, and my morale is higher than ever," Hamburger said later, whose new French team Casino have scored 42 victories

Last year he was beateo to 1991. the world road race title hy Frenchman Laurent Brochard in San Sebastian, but Hamburger feels his change of team and baby daughter have each given him a new lease of

The nnly hamburger that interested French fans was those they were cooking on roadside barbecues. It was July 14 - Bastille Day - and banners The result gave Hamburger flew, proclaiming "Allez Les

manded, "Un maillot jaune

Zidane would doubtless be happy with his lot. Yellow jerseys have a nasty habit of biting the wearer, as Chris Boardman discovered on Monday. He joined a long list of fall-

en leaders. One of the last yel-

low jersey wearers to crash was

Rolf Sorensen from Denmark in Hamburger is precariously placed. Two seconds from Hin-

capie is nothing, and those involved in yesterday's long breakaway find themselves in striking distance. The real Tour should begin

once Jan Ullrich and his rivals rise to the top, so for the alsorans these are the days to grab glory. Even as fleeting as the glory held by Boardman and

YESTERDAY: STAGE 3

TOUR DE FRANCE Stage three [Rascoff-Lorient, 169km]; 7 J Heppn-er (Ger); Telehom 3hrs 33mins 36secs; 2 X Jan (Fr) La Franciane des Jeus same dine, 3 G Hincapie (US) US Postal at 2secs, 4 B Hamburger (Den) Casino: 5 S O'Grady (Aus) GAN; 6 V Garcia-Acosta (5p) Banesto, 7 P Herve (Fr) Festona: 8 F Ca-

B Hamburger (Den) Casino: \$ S O'Graby (Aus) GAN; 6 V Garcia-Acosta (5p) Bancsto. 7 P Herve (Fr) Festina; 8 F Cabello (5p) Kelme all same pme: \$ P Chanteur (Fr) Casino at 5secs; 10 F Guid (Itt) Potit ar I mm 10secs. Selected others: 39 J Ulinch (Ger) Telekom plus 1:10: 41 A Olano (5p) Banesto: 55 R Virenque (Fr) Festina; 80 A Zule (Swn!) Festina; 105 M Pantam (Irl Mercarone Uno all same rime; 155 M Sciandri (GB) La Francase des Jeus at I min 10secs.

Dwerall scaadlogs: 1 B Hamburger (Den) Casino 13:55:00. 2 G Hincape (US) US Postal at 2secs; 5 0 O'Gady (Aus) GAN at 3secs; 4J Heppner (Ger) Telekom same time: 5 X Jan (Fr) La Francase des Jeus at 2 Isecs, 6 P Henre (Fr) Festina at 23secs. 8 P Chanteur (Fr) Cosino at 23secs. 8 P Chanteur (Fr) Cosino at 23secs. 9 F Cabello (5p) Kelme at 47secs; 10 E Zabel (Ger) Telekom at 1 min 2secs. Selected others: 17 J Ulirich (Ger) plus 1:11, 20 A Zuelle(Swnt) + 1:13, 29, R Virenque (Fr) + 1:18; 95 M Scandor (GB) La Francase des Jeus at 1 min 36secs: 149 Pantani + 1:54.

1:54.
Polints: 1 / Svorada (Cz Rep) Mapei 71
prs: 2 T Steels (Bell Mapel 68: 5 E Zobe
(Ger) Telekom 67: 4 R McEwen (Ausl
Radobank 56: 5 F Moncassin (Fri
GAN 53. King of Mountains: 1 P Herve (Fr) Fes-dna 28 pts: 2 S Zanini (it) Maper 16. 3 J Voigt (Ger) GAN 10. 4 B Hamburger (Den) Casino 7: 5 C Agnolutto (Fr) Casino 7.

TODAY: STAGE 4

Bruce Grobbelaar has joined Bury as a free agent. The former Liverpool goalkeeper turned out for the First Division club in a closed-door friendly yesterday and is to sign a shortterm contract. Kevin Keegan wants to

make the former Manchester City skipper, Kit Symons, his next signing for Fulham. Symons is available oo a free transfer after turning down terms with the relegated Manchester club and Keegan is keen to pair him with fellow Wales international Chris

France will name the successor to their World Cup-winning coach. Aime Jacquet. on

trate that he was carrying persee the police as soon as pos-Ferrain discovered anabolic forbidden by law and refused to formance-enhancing drugs in steroids in his car, which was pull his team out of the race. sible to bring some serenity "These are riders who work back to his team. This is an his car for the team and not for painted in Festina colours.

Festina deny masseur's drugs claim

allegedly told a French magispersonal use. Willy Voet, a 53-year-old Bel-

gian, had previously said the drugs were for his own use and had nothing to do with Festina, whn are among the Tour de France favourites. He was detained last week after customs accusations "absurd", denied

border town of Neuville-en-

Judicial sources in Lille said yesterday that Voet, who has been charged with possession of banned substances, now says be was acting on team orders.

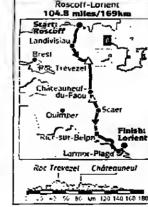
Bruno Roussel, the Festina team manager, catled the

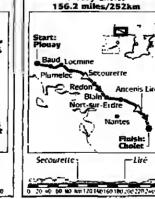
all year long and train a tot in order to get there. who have done nothing wrong." he said. "All that I know is that they have done nothing had."

Before the start of yesterlawyer, Thibault de Montbrial. were cleared," be said.

A FESTINA masseur has officers in the French-Belgian asking one of his masseurs to said: "Roussel is very surprised procure substances which are hy this news and he wants to unbearable situation for them."

The Tour director, Jean-Marie Leblanc, will not take any action until he hears something official. "We would be in trouble if I made a decision day's third stage, the leani's against Festina and then they





Agassi still thrilled to answer the Davis Cup call

INDIVIDUALS ARE being pushed aside by the thrill of representing one's country, say team that will start competing against Belgium in Indianapo-

lis on Friday. "It's nice to come together as a team and play for your country," said Andre Agassi, who tied the US record of 16 consecutive victories in Davis Cup

play earlier this year. Agassi, who like teammate

No 1 in the world, is repre- bis wife, actress Brooke senting his country in the event Shields. for the 19th time. He has won 25 matches and lost five after members of the United States baving his record streak snapped by Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov in the first round this

> And at 28, Agassi isn't ready to stop competing for the Davis

> The memories that I've had inspire me to continue," said Agassi, who is in Indianapolis mstead of taking advantage of

Courier has a unique streak

going as he represents the US

for the 12th time. The Americans have never lost a tie when Courier bas been on the team. It's no big deal, he said as the team made a public appearance

at a Planet Hollywood restau-"Not really," be said. "If my record was perfect, then maybe I'd be concerned about it. But

I've had the good fortune to play

they've needed me to come up with a good result, I have. And when I've gone out and lost the fourth match, Andre or someone else has won the crucial fifth match."

Meanwhile, the man promnting ticket sales for the event said he's been encouraged by recent interest.

"Sales were a little soft." said Russ Cline, who has been promoting ticket sales for Davis Cup events in the United States since 1989. "They were behind

Jim Courier was once ranked a week off to spend time with on a lot of good teams. When any other second-round ties I've done."

Cline said he was bopeful of having between 4,000 to 5,000 spectators at each day of the competition. The 8,461-seat Stadium Court at the Indianapolis Tennis Center will be set up with about 5,200 seats.

Both teams were scheduled to have two practice sessions at the tennis facility yesterday. and the draw for the matches will be held tomorrow when the captains must announce their

There is no mystery about the American team. Agassi and Courier, 13-8 in Cup play, will compete in singles. Todd Martin and Richey Reneberg, who only played together in one tournament before they scored a valuable point as the US defeated Russia 3-2 in the opening round of this year's World

Group play, will play doubles. The same four players who represented the United States in that be at Stone Mountain. Georgia, are back to wear their national red-white-and-blue nounce his lineup until tomor- pose any sanctions.

team with Andre and Jim. Todd against the Russians," said est player to represent the country since 33-year-old John McEnroe last played for the tested positive last December U.S. in 1992. "We bave some for the anabolic steroid nancontinuity and we all know drolone in an out-of-competition what to do and what not to do. test, the International Tennis

Belgium has a very good team and we can't take them lightly."

uniform. "We are a very solid row. He will be choosing from among four young players and I played well together Filip Dewulf, Christophe Van Garsse, Johan Van Herck and Reneberg, who at 32 is the old- 17-year-old Xavier Malisse. The American teenage ten-

nis player, Samantha Reeves, Federation (ITF) said yesterday. In a statement, the FTF said Belgium captain Koen because of "exceptional cir-Gonnissen doesn't plan to an- cumstances" it would not im-

Jockey Club bans Aintree double-act

BY SUE MONTGOMERY

ANOTHER ROMANTIC chapter in the story of the Grand National has been closed. In future horses will no longer be able to run in both the John Hughes Chase over one circuit of the National fences on the Thursday and the big race itself two days later.

One of the recommendations made in a Jockey Club report into three fatalities in the latest running of the Aintree marathon is that any horse will be automatically withdrawn from the National if it runs in

a repeat of the stirring performance produced by Churchtown Boy in 1977, when he won the first contest and beat all bar Red Rum in the second. But it also just might have saved the life of Griffins Bar, who fell at the second in the John Hughes this year and died after coming down in the National.

Might, however, is the opercluded that the deaths of Pashto, Do Rightly and Griffins Bar - who each fell independently at the first, third and fifth fences -- were the result of "un-

has any hlame been attached to the conditions on the day: the unusually heavy going, the track's condition, the height of the fences, the speed to the first fence or the number of runners. Nonetheless, the Jockey

Club is sensitive to criticism of steeplechasing's showpiece and accept that, these days, there must be public confiative word. The report has con- dence that steps are being taken, and being seen to be taken, to minimise every risk.

The latest recommendations, made after extensive consultation between interestanother race after the five-day fortunate accidents" with no ed parties including trainers, National lookalike fences at

declarations. This will rule out common denominator. Neither jockeys, course officials and the three major training centres this power to veto a runner in animal-welfare bodies, will be of Lambourn, Middleham and in place by next year's race and are impossible to argue with. They include improvements

> RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Male-Ana-Mou (Sandown 7.55) **NB: Teapot Row** (Doncaster 8.35)

in the maintenance and repair of the ground - which came in for vociferous criticism this year from Jenny Pitman - and the provision of smaller Grand

Newmarket

And the quality of the horses taking part will be under closer scrutiny. The qualifications Cardinal Red were advised that for the race underwent a shakeup five years ago; from now on, even if a horse is qualified, it still may be prevented from taking part if a panel of judges decides that it is not good enough. Horses will also have to undergo a pre-race veterinary inspection and race planners will be asked to review the handi- having to make too often. We alcapping to encourage more

ing, and in fact exercised it last year when the connections of he would not be allowed to run in the Foxhunters' Chase.

Tony Goodhew, director of the Jockey Club department which compiled the report, said: "A decision to refuse a horse permission to run would be a difficult one to make, but it is not one which we would envisage ready have vets monitoring es on either horse or jockey high-class horses to take part. horses at the Grand National, The stewards already have but this will formalise it.

"We accept that the Grand any race under the Rules of rac National is the ultimate test of a steeplechaser, and we must find a balance between what it the moderate point-to-pointer means to the industry and the views of the public who watch it."

Charles Barnett, managing director at Aintree, has welcomed the findings. "The report has been thorough and the recommendations are sensible," he said. "This is the world's greatest steeplechase but while it is demanding it must always be fair and risk minimised.

"Aintree never compromissafety and we will never be complacent. We already go to

great lengths on safety and will go the extra mile, which is why we are adding to the measures already taken."

Though not requested to do so by the Jockey Club, Aintree has decided to widen the first fence by two metres to give the horses more room.

The course will also employ a further 50 groundstaff to repair the Grand National course on Friday after the Foxhunters' Chase so that track reinstatement is complete by first light on Grand National day in time for early-morning inspection by the connections of prospective participants.

FIRST SHOW

Tote profits increase privatisation threat

RECORD YEARLY profits were announced by the Tote at its annual meeting yesterday. At the London meeting, attended by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, Tote chairman Peter Jones revealed an annual profit of £17.9million - a 39 per cent end of last year. increase on the previous fi-

on last year.

Tote Bookmakers increased the number of its off-course betting shops from 209 to 346, including the purchase of 133 shops from Ladbrokes at the

Stressing the need to build up its off-course business. The figure resulted in a new Jones promised the Tote would high in its contribution to rac- pitch for Coral's hetting shops

Mergers Commission not approve Ladbrokes' proposed simple win and place," an extakeover of Coral.

ed a healthy pattern from the for the Stewards' Cup on 1 Aulonger term, which has seen gust. Tote turnover rise from £240m to £397m during the past five

Looking to the future Jones

ing of £10.2m, up by 17.5 per cent should the Monopolies and Tote's turnover "through exotic multiple wagers rather than ample of which is the new Tri-The 12-month trend reflect- fecta, which will be introduced

> The oranisation's increased profits could hasten controversial Government plans for greater partnership between pledged further to increase the the Tote and the private sector, sector.

including possible privatisa-

Jones claimed there was a "new dynamism" inherent in the plans announced by Straw last month. Straw revealed yesterday that Jones will chair the body-involving input from the Tote, the Home Office and the Treasury - to review the partnership with the private

"I do want to stress that this will be a joint exercise between the Home Office, the Treasury and the Tote," the Home Secretary said. "This is not a matter of moving straight to privatisation.

"That will clearly be one possible option, but we expect to look at a range of possibilities and nothing is ruled out at this stage."



Peter Jones: Shops spree

Yarmouth 4.30 52 52 114 52 03 7-2 31 31 Vientic Viking 41 8-1 92 92 Platet D'Amour 8-1 11-2 6-1 13-2 Each-way a quarter the odds, places, 1, 2 H Wim HI, L Lackschee, S Stanley, T Total

YARMOUTH

4.00 Doomna

2.00 Sassy 2.30 Taker Chance 3.00 Shocker 3.30 Niki

5.00 Blowing Away

GOING: Good to Firm. STALLS: Straight course - lar side; Round - Inside. ORAW ADVANTAGE: None.

ORAW ADVANTAGE: None

Left-hand course, level and fair.

Course is 6m W of flown off A20. Westenhanger station (service from London, Charng Cross) edipins course ADM/SSION: Club £12; Tattersalis £8.50; Family and course enclosure £4.50. CAR PARK: £1

LEADINO TRAINERS: L Current 14 wins from 84 runners (success rate 21.9%), M

Bell 14-79 (17.7%), J Fanshawe 12-78 (15.4%), J Goeden 12-88 (13.6%),

LEADINO JOCKEYS: L Dettorf 29 wins from 125 rides (success rate 23.2%), M Hille 27-15; (16.9%), R Cohrane 13-98 (15.1%), Falson 11-99 (15.9%), SelinKERED FIRST TIME: Pursuit Venture (3.30).

2.00 UPTON SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 1m 2f 21yds Penalty Value £1,970

2010 ERRANT (5) (D) (BF) (Derock harwood) D Cosgove 8 8 12... A Nicholis (7) 7
40355 BLOCKADE (15A) (13) (CD) (A M Warendar) M Ed 9 9 8 ... M Halis 3
4036 GUESSTIMATION (12) (C) (D) (Exclusive Red) J Pearre 9 9 8 ... G Faultoner (5) 2
40000 THACLER'S FOLLY (7) (Water Heaterstey) G Margarson 8 9 8 ... R Cochrane 1
40000 CAPERCABLE (18) (Future Electrical Serves List) D Morre 3 9 9 ... J. Tale 6
40030 GASSY (12) (6/5 Ann Jarvis) A Jarvis 3 8 4 ... Decim O'Shan 4
40030 SASSY (12) (6/5 Ann Jarvis) A Jarvis 3 8 4 ... O Sweezey 5

BETTING: 11-4 Guessimotion, 7-2 Errant, Tinklers Folly, 4-1 Blockade, 13-2 Sussy, 12-1 Capescallie, 33-1 Dockland Executive, 1937 Suchel Uss 2 5 5 G Carter 5-2 tay (M Ryan) drawn (1) 6 ran

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Frant: Winner of seller and claimer on the Southwell all-weather last month. Not so good on turf and plenty in do at the weights. Blockede: Disappointing lest two outnings but generally runs his best races here these duty. Chance on 6: length thad to Masked over course and distance in May Guesathmation: Winner three times in this class lest term out out of sorts this season and tailed off at Hamitori on latest start.

Triviblers Polly: Winner of four handcaps in 1996, out of sorts lest season. Some Encouragement 2's lengths lifth to After Dawin at Foliostane (tim 2/last week.

Capercaillie: Linte sign of ability so fat. Tined in biribers and a visor to no effect.

Dockford Executive: Well beaten on all outnigs this season (fast of 15 in Foliastone seller last week).

seller last week.) Sassy: Wirmer of a Windsor 6f seller lest July Fair severith to Pover Bear in 1m hand-cap at Windsor last month but below par since. Yet to prove she stays 10f

VERDICT: Wat virtually no recent form to work on, the best knower may be BLOCK-DE, who twice ran well here earset this term and might benefit from a return to stronge

Description of the process of the pr

2.30 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS E) £5,000 added 2YO 6f Penalty Value £3,655

-8 declared
8ETTING: 7-2 Cover Girl, 9-2 Saltord Flyer, 5-1 Powergold, 6-1 Taker Chance, Faresta, 7-1 Bridged Blass, 8-1 Prince Of Aragon, 10-1 Emma-Lyne.

297 Headfurier 2 9 0 M Hill: 15-2 (W Hoyges) drawn (5) 8 ran

Powergold: 16,000gns son of Second Set, Encouraging debut when prominent for a long way from poor draw, seven lengths 11th to Sakha at Kempton (60) Selfond Fiyer: Phatry cott out of a mare who won from 1m 21 to 2m. Stable usually a force here out without a winner for seven weeks Price Of Aragon: Stepped up up on debut form when 4 lengths seventh to Red Lon-in a useful auction contrels at Windows (\$1), Should not be far away. Taker Chance: Pussance gelding, Helf-brother to winners. Stable two-year-olds yet to

Taker Chance: Pussance geiding, Half-brother to winners. Stable two-year-olds yet to get off the mark Bridgend Blue: No show on Royal Ascot debut (18th of 14 to Flanders) but was close up to the furiong marker when 7 lengths sixth to Kies Me Goodinght at Chepatow (81) next time. Capable of taking a hand. Cower Girl: Fevourite when numer-up to Midnight Orchid on her Hamilton debut. Fieled to progress when 6'h lengths severath to Bodfen Street at Heydock (87) next time Fenetita: Looked moderate on debut and was always outpaced when eight lengths (1th to Bathwick at Werwick (71), Something better fleety to be required here Emma-Lyne; Emzatti half-sister to miker Salance Of Power (winner over 6f at two). Sta-les amono the sevenile womens and worth octors in the market.

ble among the sevenile wanters and worth noting in the market VERDICT: Taker Chance, from last year's winning stable, and Emma-Lyne are new-corners worth noting, but the previous expensions of BRIDGEND BLUE could swing the issue. He had little chance from a slow start on his Royal Ascot debut but went well for a long way at Chepstow and may not need to improve a great deat

3.00 HORSEY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,750 added filles &

_		mares 1m Penalty Value £3,080
	202000	RICH IN LOVE (19) (C) (R M Cycer) C Cycer 4 10 0
		TRIPLE HIGH (14) (The Trate S Partiernic) C Well 4 8 4 I Take 8
		GYMCRAK FLYER (14) (CD) (BF) (Gymcrak Thoroughbreds) G Hidnes 7 8 4 K Fellon 1
		MIGRATE (USA) (284) (Shekh Mchammad) J Gosten 3 9 3L Duttori 10
	6-6111	SHOCKER (S) (CD) (Al K Al Jabet) W Happas 3 9 3 (Sec) M Hair I
	5140-6	SANDICLIFFE (USA) (18) (D) (Ash Partnersho) J Toler 5 9 1
	0-5600	PRINCESS OF HEARTS (J109) (D) (A S Feld) M Ryan 4 8 11
	-60240	DAINTREE (18) (G 8 Arm) H Collegration 4 8 4
	00-05	NATALIES PET (S4) (Mrs L McCalle) Lady Herries 3 7 12
		CERTAIN DANGER (14) (Paul & Jerry Green) N Categoren 3 7 tt
	002302	SEPAPE (18) (Ms V 8 Foster) M Pail 57 TO
	05000-	KATIES TREAT (202) (Mrs R Nesh) () Thom 3.7 (0

Afrimum weight: 7st 10th. True herdisap weight: Kades Treat 7st 6b. BETTING: 9-4 Shocker, 9-2 Mignate, 8-1 Gyancrak Plyer, Natalier's Pet, Serape, 10-1 Rich la Love, Sendisitha, 12-1 others. 1997, Rasha 3 3 2 A McGione 15-2 (R Armstrong) drawn (9) 10 ran

FORM GUIDE

FOHM GUIDE

Rich to Lowe: Rased 1th higher when winner over 71 hern last term. Fair second to Rambold in Chepatow handcap of 6th higher in May but has run badly in three durings ance Tripte High: Stayed on when fifth to Hernan on her debut here firm) last month but has been outclessed in two outnigs since. Handcap debut and one to watch in market Gymoraik Plyer; Winner from 2th higher here in September. Signs of refund to form at Carlete and when fourth to Moonstone here (7t) less time. Fellon booking looks agenticant.

Histories: Ground firm in Stayeonnesie in a descent Newmarket market on the other last here. Migratire, Good fifth to Stayingsive in a decent Newmanted maken on her debut lest tame but tailed to build on their. Stable three-year-cids beginning to make their mark in hand-cope and market is Bedy to be best guide to her chance on handicap debut. Shocket: Completed her hat-frich in ethorities style at Room despice bed draw beating. Swing The Builds by three lengths. Bit higher here out looks the one to beet. le: Course wriner and looked capable of writing off this mark when fourth to Lunch Party from bad traw here (17) in September, Serious contender after promising comeback when soft to Sweet Pea in strong Newmarket handcap (1m) Princess Of Hearts Winner first time out for Bren Meehan at Notific hern last term. Changed Princess Of Hearts Winner first time out for Brean Mechan at Nothingham last term. Changed stable again since tailed off at Southwell on Latest start in January. Best watched Delethres: Medicen wher 21 starts but numming well and repeat of her time-length second to Luckly Archer from 10 higher fiere (7f) in May would put her mouthe reclosing. Natello's Peth First outing for present yord when 3°s lengths fifth to Misten Heights at Brighton (m) offer trouble in numming 2b lower have and looks possible improver. Cartain Dangers First signs of athlity when four lengths fifth to Fritton in a seller (7m) here. Officiall to lancy on that effort out the market may be best guide. Deficiall to lancy on that effort out the market may be best guide. Surgers Without with in 20 starts but besten only short-head by Girl Of My Diearns from poor draw at Doncesser (7f) last larns. Tindly ride and unproven at tim. Katles Treat: Little sign of ability in seven stars last term, including sellers.

VERIDICT: Natalle's Pet and Misonate both bave policited for more period and with

VERDICT: Natalle's Pet and Higheste both have potential for improvement and, with a high draw, Lady Hentes' filty might be capable of troubling the test-improving SHOCK-ER, who is not overburdened under a 6th penalty and looks one to follow until beaters. Sandfoliffe was making progress last backend and is another in coneder along with dual course wither Gymoralk Flyer, who should get the strong pace he needs

3.30 PTS HEATPACK MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) 25,000 added 3YO 7f Penalty Value £3,655

- 8 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Mild, 3-1 Razzar, 9-2 Pursuit Venture, 6-1 Perting Scho, Monarchy, 8-1 Shad 1997 Blueygreen 8 9 G Hind 8-4 for (P Chapple-Hyern) drawn (6) 9 ran

FORM GUIDE

Parting Echo: Improved on promising Salabury debut when 5"; lengthe fourth, stay-ing on, to Brief Escapede in Warwick maiden (fm). Looks capable of wirning 6 race, but

ing on, to Brief Escapede in Warwick median (Im). Looks capable of wirning 6 race, but signs are that it will be over ferther than this Rezort Confirmed juvenile promise on Warwick reappearance and when ** length sacond to Pure Gold in Sandown median. Pulled too hard in hot Sandown handicap last time but will be major factor in this wester-looking line-up Stradow Cheric Pelay King colt out of barriels Samuel. Stable coming out of quest spell and market will be best guide to his chance.

Monstrohy: Common Grounds filly out of Royal Pumpus. Looks stable second string. Nidd: Appeared filly of some potential, though possibly temperamental, when 5° length fourth to Merchiese in strong Doncaster median (Im) lest beckend.

Pursuit Venture: Promise of her 3 length second to Ethersel at Newcestle (Im) in Merch yet to be fulfilled, eithough teir fifth fo Tajausz at Lingfield (IOI) in May

VERDICT: A fully fit NIKI would be difficult to best on her reeppearance. She got the lod-glove treatment at Doncaster lest backend and comes from a yard now fring on all cylinders. A below-per showing would let in the more exposed Razor, whose second to Pure Gold at Sandown suggests it is only a matter of pure before he lands

4.00 TUNSTALL STAKES (CLASS C) £10,000 added 3YO ffilles 7f Penalty Value £5,927

FORM GUIDE

Dan Loose: Winner twice in Milan lest term. Sidelined since firsting fifth over 9f there In March Difficult to assess, but bred to require farther.

Beominist Talong on some very useful company when it is length second to Spindrift on Salisbury (7f) responsance. Looks capable of further improvement to Expect To Shiher. Did not quite make the grade in top company lest term but good tourth in Fillies' 148e at Ascot and close sorth to Name Of Love in Rocktel Stakes.

VERDICT: The Salisbury effort of DOOMNA bodes well for the future. The winner is and tested in high-grade company and will be no pushover

4.30 FILBY BRIDGE RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B) £12,250 added 7f Penalty Value £7,387

CCECCS WARNINGFORD (18) (D) (Bartord Bloodstock I) J Farshave 487, W R Subsburn 2 V

Historium weight 8d 7lb (Syo 7st 13th). True handcap weights: Pleas D'Ameur 8st 5lb, Free Option ETTING: 5-2 Warningford, 3-1 Calches, 9-2 Attentic Viking, 5-1 Pree Option, Standder, 5-1 Plaini 1997 Yorke George 3 9 0 K Darley 7-2 (L Current) drawn (S) 10 ran

FORM GUIDE:

Warningford: Much improved since fitted in visor, fineshing second to No Extras in Newmarket handicap and 3 lengths fourth to Muchae in Group 3 contest at Newmarket. Calches: Improved into Group performer last term. Looked to have trained on when 8° length fifth in Soviet Bureau on Goodwood reappearance but stiff task at weights Shadder: Progressive sort, narrowly beaten in Group class in France last term and third in Graze in Redcar Two-Yesr-Old Trophy. Long absence must be concern. Attendic Villding: Yet to fulfil promise of his early two-year-old form, though not disgraced in strongly-contested sprints at Epsom and York this term. Trip looks a worry. Plateir D'Amour: Winner four times last term but generally desappointing lately. Failed in respond in birders when well-beaten seventh to Guelic Storm at Newcastle. Free Option: Placed in good malden company last term. Landed gamble when beating Totom in Lingfield malden (71) but has plenty on his plate in this higher grade.

VERDICT: Atlantic Viking has a clear edge at the weights on juvenile form but VEHILIC II: Amendo Visung has a clear edge at the weights on juvenue forth but races as though this trip will be a problem. WARNINGFORD has taken a 5lb weights rate for his two improved recent efforts, but that may not be a harsh judgment and he looks a more relable proposition. Catchas is clearly highly regarded by connections and substantial improvement on Goodwood would come as no surprise

5.00 REPPS HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,750 added 1m 3f 101yds

-105	FILISSIAN RULER (99) (A L R Morton) A Jarvis 4 10 0 D Sweeney 8
10-0	ALAKDAR (CAN) (21) (Mrs. Auth) Mendonos) R Chempion 4 9 TO D O'Donohoe 8
U5-0	ACADEMY STAR (37) Mrs James McAlister) J L Yerris 49 4
	MESS PIN UP (19) (CO) (Ray McChin) R McGhin 9 94
444	AUGUSTAN (12) (6F) (Robert Jones) 5 Golings 7 8 12. Martin Dwyer 4
2-43	MENUFUR (18) (The Cottage Racing Partnership) Lady Hames 4 8 11
524	BLOWING AWAY (6) (BF) (Mark Tomplans Racing) M Tomplans 4 8 7A Nicholle (7) 3
600	LANSN (11) (Darren Circit) C Cosgrove 3 8 3
	COTTAGE PRINCE (12) (D) (Mrs Kay Thornes) J.J. Quinn 5 8 0
D-0¢	MOONSHIFT (29) (C V Lines) H Collingratge 4 7 10
	YAVERLAND (54) (Mrs 8 A Blackwell) John Serry 6 7 10

- 11 Bottaver - 12 Bottaver - 13 Bottaver - 13 Bottaver - 14 Bottaver -

Russian Ruser: Displayed decent form in maiden company last term and off the mark on Southweil eff-weather in March. Little show in two turf outlings since and is probably best watched elating Caltereds making without for Alog Stewart bott haddend. Well beginn over hav-

Addition: Catternisk meticien winner for Alec Stowart text bedrend. Well beaten over hurdles ance and little show on Epson Plat reappearance
Academy Star; Ran well here for James Fanstes 11 months ago but failed to repest
that after. Tailed off on reappearance for new connections
Milite Pin Up: Seemingly a light of former days but fair fourth to Murchan Tyne at Leicester lest month. 3to lower here and by no means out of the argument, though more rain

Auguster: Consistent sort, Graduelly innuing rorm with genu one contender Beverley. Tib lower than latest wirning mark and looks a serious contender Matthews: Well braded on latest 1th length third to Admirate Secret at Lingfeld (2th lower latest and latest 1th length third to Admirate Secret at Lingfeld (2th lower latest and latest 1th length third to Admirate Secret at Lingfeld (2th lower latest latest latest 1th length third to Admirate Secret at Lingfeld (2th lower latest late ten: Consistent sort, Gradually finding form with good efforts at Doncaster and here). Form boosted by runner-up from Mountain, Fallon booking significant. Blowing Away: Knocking on the door with creditable efforts at Pontelfact (unlucky in nummg) and Lingfield (9). Extra three furlangs here should aud. Lantin: Showed a Ritle ability behind Pure Gold in a Sandown maiden three outings ago.

but looks harshly treated despite 5to drop since last run Cottage Prince: Winner over hurdles since Caltenck and Redcar whis last year. Back

on withing mark and signs of return to from when sixth to Jaib at Beverley
Moonshift: Ran his best race on turf when 3 lengths fourth to from Mountain here (Im
2) last month. Longer trip should suit and chance off 1to lower mark
Yeverland: Best form on all-weather. Will need to step up considerably on latest 8th of
10 holdens Princess at Beverley (Im 4t) to take a hand VERDICT: The handicapper seems to have presented MEILLEUR with a bright chance of breaking the ice. His Lingfield form, albeit in an apprentice race, looks solid enough and the strength of Fallon should ensure his undoubted starrina is fully employed. Blowing Away has had plenty of chances, though she should be in the money again, and 6 more potent threat could be Cottage Prince

RACING RESULTS

2. Buzz The Agent ... S Finnamore 25-1 3. Sandmoor Tartan ... R Havriin 14-1 Also: 6-1 jr fav Arm And A Leg junseated nder), 8-1 jr fav Danong Em (5th), 13-2 Mss Salsa Dancer (4th), 7-1 Sabre But (6th), 10-1 On The Mat. 12-1 Ashtesph Baker, 12-1 Candy Twist, 14-1 Sing For Me, 15-1 King of Dance, 16-1 Hingleader (pulled up), 20-1 Bridge, 25-1 Smooth Princess.

Endge 25-1 Smooth Princess.

15 ren. 1%. 2. 1, 1%. (winner chestnut filly by Cadesta Generator out of Zawashy, trained by E Durlop, Newmarket, for Gainsborough Stud). Tote: win £930: places £300. £1240. £770. DF: £34390. CSF: £22772. Tincast £323095 Trio: not won Pool

2.45' (2m handicap)
1. SWIFTWAYL Charnock 10-1
2. MondragonA Culhane 9-2
3. BurlesqueDarren Mottatt 18-1

Also: 7-2 Fav Methun, 9-2 Heasts La Vista. 6-1 Anseg, 14-1 Kckonsun (4th), 14-1 Ki-noko (5th), 14-1 Zamhanser. 16-1 Sweet Ser-ensta, 20-1 Hunting Ground, 25-1 Scorched Ar. 25-1 Sund, 33-1 Marys Path (6th) All, 24-1 Supple Self Interpret Plant (eth.)

14 rain, 2%, 7, 16, 116, 16, (wrone chassinut gelding by Anshan our of Solerin Occasion, trained by K Hogg, Isle Of Man, for A Winne).

Tota: win 50080; places \$230, CSF; 25102, Thoust. 2683.80. Tno: 2160.90. NR: Pardan

3.15: (7f 100yd claiming stakes 3yo) Also: 15-8 fav Dorrington. 10-1 Mr Miyag. [4th], 12-1 Top Floor (5th). 16-1 Novelty, 25-

B ran 1%, 'h. 1%, nk. 2. (wunner bay geld-ung by Districtly North out of Moyhors, trained by 8 Rothwell Warthill, for N Jackson). Tote: wh 6570, places £150, £250, Dual fore-cast: £500, GSF-£1189.

3.45: (71 100yd handicap 3yo) 1. GOLDEN FORTUNEK Fallon 8-11 fav Also: 10-1 Premium Pursuit (6th), 14-1 Cool Prospect (4th), 20-1 Regency Times (5th), 33-1 Filey Brigg.

****THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES** 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS 9.71 9R1 CATTERICK

DONCASTER (E) 975 985 WORCESTER (E) 976 986 ALL COURSES RESULTS <u>0891</u> 261 970

7 ran. 4, %, 6, 1%, 7. (chestrut filly by Forzan-do out of Short And Sharp, trained by O Loder, Newmarket, for Lucayan Stud), Total £160; £130, £310. DF; £390. CSF; £485.

(etm), 9-1 swiss fort, 6-1 Lashran Codt Pur-suent, Rigadoon, 20-1 Mas Campanula, 33-1 Bolt From The Blue, Dazzling Quintet (4th), Major Gamble, Pos Eurocruseir. 14 ram, 3. hd, 1, 1/s, 2, (werene bay cost by Hol Danzig out of Have A Cut, trained by A

Stewart, Newmarket, for P McGuirmess & S Hammond), Tote: £290; £130, £470, £250 DF: £4290, CSF: £5473, Tno; £28110. 4.45: (5) handican)

Lady, Pamaze, Rude Awakening (Sth.), 33-1 Collect, Tamenn Bay, 19 rpn. sh-hd. 1'k. 'h. 'h. 'h. 'h. 'h. 'winner bay gelding by Distant Relative out of Lindfield Belle, trained by 0 Keity, Sheriff Hutton, for A Barrein, Tote: £12-50; £2-10, £7-50, £1-90, £8-90 DF: £07-770, CSF: £301-47 Timast: £3,478-58. Tio; not wort, pool of £1990.57 to Folkestone 3:10 today, NR: Colway Rake, After a stewards inquiry, the second and third places were revised.

BRIGHTON

2.00: 1. ASLEY (T Sprake) 7-1; 2. Estime 7-1; 3. Personer 5-2 8 ran. 6-4 lay Ghita (4th) 1/-, hd. (M Tregoting). Tote: £6:10; £1:30. £2:00. £1:50. DF: £42:40. CSF: £52:10 220. \$150. DF: \$4240. CSF; \$5210.
2.30: 1. KARAKUL, (T Sprake) 11-2; 2.
Coral Reef 33-1; 3. Slims Lady 7-4 tax, 8
rm, 2. ½. (M Fetherston-Godey), fote: \$200;
\$220. \$820, \$130. DF: \$5420. CSF- \$14067.
3.00: 1. ROISIN BPLENDOUR (0
O'Donohoe) 2-1, 2. Splendid Isolation 2-5
toy; 3. Desert Song 50-1, 5 ran. str-hd, 8.
IS Dowl. Tote: \$250; \$110. \$110. DF: \$130
CSF: \$288

3.30: 1. PRESENT GENERATION (S Sanders) 25-1. 2. Barbason 8-1; 3. Soft Rouch 8-1. 10 ram, 11-4 bay Zurs §hij. ½, 1½. (R Guest). Tote; £42.00; £8.80, £2.50. DF: £63.0. CSF: £796.26. Tricast: £1507.30. Tric: £556.40 part worn, pool of £78.90 to Folkestone 3.00 today. NR: Smarter Charter 4.00: 1. ON CALL. (G Duffield) 8-13 tw; 2. Wings Awarded 8-1; 3. Nr Browning 7-1. 8 ram. ½, 13 (Mark Prescott). Tote: £170; £140. £140. £180. OF: £360. CSF: £50. 4.30: 1. APOLLO. RED (Cardy Morra) 8-3.30: 1. PRESENT GENERATION (S

110. 1140. 1150 On: 5360 CSF: 5507.
4.30: 1. APOLLO RED (Candy Morrs) 81: 2. Fort Knex 16-1: 3. Juveni 20-1: 4. Tropical Beach 8-1: 8 ran. 7-2 fay Harmanerror.
1%. 1 (6 L Moore) Totic 51:30: 52:30, 52:30.
54:50. 54:50. 54:50. 57: 51:21:83. Troast: £236478. This not won pool of £100545 to Folkestone 3:10 today. NR: Siep On Place 6: £116.94 Place 5: £52.19

CATTERICK

2.20 Thank Heavens 2.50 Brodessa 3.20 Lady Sheriff 3.50 Palacegate Touch 4.20 Cru-Inn A Bhord 4.50 Adeste Fideles

GOING: Firm (Good to Firm in places) STALLS: Inside DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low best for SL III Lett-hand course, undulating and sharp.

Course is MV of lown on A6786, Darington station 44m - buses to course. ADMISSION: Club Ett.; Tattersalls Et., Course E2.50 to course. ADMISSION: CUb ETI: Tattersalls C7, Course 22:50 under the all enclosures). CAR PARK: Reserved 62: rest free.

LEADING TRAINERS: J Berry 25-TA [E1]. Mrs M Reveley 5-33 (85%), M Johanston H-86 (63%), M W Easterby H-15 (22%). ELEADING JOCKEYS: K Darley 25-TS (13%), J Carroll 22-149 (148%), J Fortune 20-125 (16%), L Charmock 15-150 (94%).

FAVOURITES: 182-467 (45%).

SUNKERED FIRST TIME: Swent Lake (350), Yourloa (450).

LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Wordark Express (350) 9871 278 miles.

2.20 SWALE PASTURE NOVICE AUCTION STAKES (F) £3,000 added 2YO 7! STARLES (F) 2-5,000 deuters 210 ff
1 35- RED CHARGER (8) 18erty 92 ... I Fortune 3
2 (202 THANK HEAVENS (21) (0) M Charmen 92 ... I Perham 2
3 5- BLACKPOOL ROCK (11) (8F) J J ONel 8 °C. ... J Carrell 1
4 (5 RUDI SECRET (22) T Easterby 8 °C. ... K Darley 4
5 32 BOLLIN ROSERTA (11) 1 Easterby 8 °C. ... K Darley 4
5 35- BOLLIN ROSERTA (11) 1 Easterby 8 °C. ... L Charmock 5
- 5 declared BETTING: 11-8 86kin Hoberta, 9-4 Thank Heavens, 9-2 Red Charges,
8-1 Blackpool Rock, 10-1 Rod Secret

FORM VERDICT Bollin Roberta and THANK HEAVER'S take the eye. Boan Roberta is entitled to give a good account receiving weight from her to is emitted to give a good account receiving weight from her wats and a handy 9th from the selection. But this light track should suil Thank Heavens's front running style and he can make all.

2.50 ST ANNE'S CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) 23,000 added 1m 4f Otio2 Ten Past SX (12) M Ware 69 0 J Carrol 1 V Otio5 NOMOS (JS) 6 M Moore 7 9 5 K Darley 6 S222: BRODESSA (9) Mrs M Reveloy 2 8 3 A Cultum 2 F0000 SABU (JSI) A Father 6 9 3 A Winston (3) 5 O00040 STOLEN MRSC (8) R Barr 5 9 0 Nome Wantle (5) 7 O0003 STONEHAM OIFL (JSG) F Burthy 8 9 0 C Lowiter 3 O00 SXYERS A KITE (9) Ron Thompson 3 8 9 J Lower 6 GOLDENGIFLINGCHELE (21) R Orago 3 8 3 T Williams 8 - 8 declared -

- 8 dectared -BETTING: 5-4 Bradessa, 2-1 Ten Pest Six, 13-2 Goldengirimicheite Nanios, Stolen Music, Stoneham Girl, 20-1 Sabu, Skyere A Kitz FORM YERDICT

The veteran Brodessa has obvious claims in this grade but as his victories have come over further. The front-running Ten Past. Shr is Blody to get the run of the race. But in a poor context is a worth giving the lightly-raced GOLDENGRIANGHELLE the ned in the hope she is capable of further improvement. 3.20 LOW GREEN HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 5f

illis Grange, 0-1 My Abboy. FORM VERDICT FORM YERUJULI

Lady Sheriff, Bowning Grange and AFAAN at tike to go from
the front. The last-named is preferred after he showed his furn
was not far away with a Newmarket third to Steins Lad last week.
Lady Sherif seems wall-rested but has lecked spanke in her races
this season and the main threat may come from Royal Dome. 3.50 COWSTAND BRIDGE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added to

SPCCOD HENRY THE HAWK (15)(D) M Dods 7 96 R Winston (5) 3 5541: PALACEGATE TOUCH (5)(C)(D) J Berry 8 98... K Danley 2 8 650% MILLESINE (15) M Ware 690 J Carroll 10 500-60 MOST RESPECTFUL (5) N Trivider 590 Kim Trivider 11 0-0006 MYSTIC RING (30) (D) J Haldane 890 . . . L Chamodit 7 5 00005 MYSTIC RING (xi) (b) J Haldons 8 9 0 L Chamock?
7 00000 SWAN LAKE (7) 8 Heerban 4 8 9 J Fenning 8
8 00000 SWAN LAKE (7) 8 Heerban 4 8 9 J Fenning 8
8 00000 SENROCK (13) Wrs G Riess 3 8 8 Deam McKedwin 9 V
9 4 00000 SCOTICH TIME (13) R Fairey 3 8 8 O Pears 8
10 000000 SWANCHERDO (14) R Hollanderod 3 8 6 ... A Cultime 1
10 000000 SUPACALIFRAGILISTIK (18) J Belding 3 8 3 J Edinume 5
10 050000 VERDANT EXPRESS (19) V/ G M Turner 3 8 3

- 12 document -BETTING: 15-8 Palacegate Tooch, 5-1 Henry The Hands, 7-1 Secon Lake, 8-1 Yardank Express, 12-1 Militasime, Scotch Timo, 14-1 others FORM VERNICT

PALACEGATE TOUCH is the salest choice in a race where most of the runners appear out of form. He has the benefit of a low draw and can make all Henry The Hawk and Swan Lake are 4.20 PALLETT HILL AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (F) £3,000 3YO filles 71

S-2 CRUINN A BHORD (23) A Stewart 8 11 M Roberts: COS MISS SEPENGETI (29) J Berry 8 11 J Fortune 7 THATOLOGIACKMACIC W Slovy 8 11 J Family 3

- T declared BET11MG: 2-9 Cruism A Bhord, 12-1 Jacobina. Mass Serangett, 16-1 To-rianna. 20-1 Karenaragon, 25-1 Thatoldblackmagic, 33-1 Torrivitle Cee FDRM VERDICT This is best left to CRUINN A aHORO, who confirmed the

and to Kissogram on her comeback. Miss Serengeti and Tori

promise she had shown as a Juvenile with a sound Yarmouth sec

4.50 BECKSIDE HANDICAP (CLASS E) COLAC ADESTE FIDELES (7) (D) (BF) M Bell 97 . H Mullen (3) 0-2361 YOUNGCO (15) (C) M Johnston 9 2 ... Dean McKeesen 2 8 000532 PIPE MUSIC (5) P Hastern 8 TI 6 068031 DISCO TDY (5) M W Esserby 8 0 (56x) G Partin 7 7 000-06 JAGO (20) M W Esserby 7 10 L Channock -7 decisted -

Howmen weight 7st 10th Tine handcap weight Jago 7st 7th. BETTING: 11-4 Younico, 7-2 Adeste Fideles, Disco Tex, 9-2 Pipe Musik

7-1 Fres. 6-1 Hiding Place, 33-1 Jago FORM VERDICT

Outs a competitive heat out YOUNICO in first-time blinkers may just edge out recent easy Hamilton winner Disco Tex and Newmarket raider Adeste Fideles. You would have to forgive Hiding Place her last run to give her a chance, but Pipe Music would not be writing out of turn. Froe represents the Mary Reveley stable and could be a surprise packet

DONCASTER

HYPERION 6.35 Internal Affair 7.05 Tenby Heights 7.35 Moon Colony (nb) 8.05 Bemuse 8.35 Super-

cal 9.05 Royal Mark GOING: Good to Firm.

STALLS: Straight course - stands ards, Round course - neide, Round mile - outside, DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Listi-hand, peer shaped course with 1 mile straight.

Course & E of lown oil the AS38 (MIS Jots 3 & 4). Bus link from Decreaser Central ADMISSION: Cab Cts; Grandstand CS; Course & E of fown off the AG38 (Mfs Jcts 3 & 4). Bus link from Doncaster Centres ADMISSION; Cub C Ct; Grandstand St; Family Enclosure £3 (under-16s free), CAR PARIK; Free.

LEADING TRAINERS; 8 Hills 33-193 (1714), J Goeden 27-135 (27%), J Dunlop 24-04 (173%), H Cectl 21-88 (239%).

LEADING JOCKEYS; K Durley 34-258 (13.2%), L Dettort 30-193 (15.5%), J Fortune 18-174 (10.3%), J Weaver 15-163 (9.2%).

FAVOURITES; 21-712 (29.6%), BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Band On The Run (visored, 30.5).

6.35 DONCASTER APPRENTICE HANDI-CAP (CLASS F) £3,000 added 5f

An open race with an even opread of early pace. David Micholis has his sprinters in tremendous form but Sue Me - the pick of his pair - could find this on the sharp side. This comment also may apply to Nite Owler, and SOUTHERN DOMINION, whose Musseburgh win last week has been iranked by runner-up Joheyro, a likely to be herd to catch. 7.05 GRESLEY STAKES (CLASS C) £7,250 added 2YO 6f

FORM VERDICT

- 4 declared -BETTING: 6-11 Emily's Luck Charm, 3-1 Patriot, 7-2 Bodfard Street, 20-1

FORM VERDICT

of can complete the forecast 7.35 SASHA LYONS MEMORIAL HANDI-CAP (CLASS D) \$6,000 added 1m 4f BETTING: 3-1 Warning Reof, 7-2 Julis, Vansalium Ore, 11-2 Tordad, 6-1 Moon Colony, 7-1 Waliz, 25-1 Mental Pressure. FORM VERDICT

A tricky contest further confused by the possibility of a false pace - Waffr and Moon Colony have made the running in the past but are not in the habit of doing so, while it is possible that Mental Pressure will be asked to sell things up for his stablemate, the doubtful slayer Terdad. Warning Reef showed he is capable of winning off a muddling gallop at Sandown, but slight preference is for the less-exposed VANADHUM ORE. He is another unproven at the trip, so a less-than-true test is unlikely to sell against him.

8.05 EBF VYNER NOVICE STAKES (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2YO 5f

1:000

1.24

FORM VERDICT it should pay to be wary of colleteral form lines (through Bon Ami and Get Stuck in) between the appearent principals, BEJAUSE, rated Listed class by George Duffletd, is expected to complete the hat-nick.

8.35 ARKSEY STAKES (CLASS C) £7,750 added 1m (straight)

- 8 declared -BETTING: 9-4 Ahmandah, 5-2 Teapor Row, 5-1 Green Card, 7-1 Prince-by Helt, 8-1 Supercal, 12-1 Ahsan, West-A-Minute, 25-1 Teleban FORM YERDICT

Not an easy race to weigh up with question-marks against Teapot Flow and the well-reated Almandeb as well as the possibility of a mudding pace. SUPERCAL, another well treated by race con-ditions, seems to need a strong gallop to bring out the best in her and, in the hope that she is accompassed, is preferred to Prince-9.05 NORTH CLIFFE HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,000 sdded 1m (round course)

This looks a good opportunity for EARLY'S LUCK CHARM to get off the mark. He has less to do than in the Coverity Stakes, the form of which was boosted by Bertolinis Newmarket success. Patri-

FORM VERDICT

Desprie the presence of some well-handicapped horses, more negatives than positives in another tricky contest. Royal Mark is not sure to stay. Sustituch and Takhilid are not the most reliable of characters. Far Removed is returning from a three-month break and Bend On The Burn has been struggling off similar marks of tate. The booking of Kevin Derley and the fitting of a visor persuades me to give BAND ON THE RUN another chance.

حبكنا من الاجل

thle and Seething Skerrett hit Seething Skerrett hit

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE FLADFIELD

KELVIN SKERRETT, the new Wales captain, has criticised the two sides of the game's political divide for forcing him and 10 others to play a Super League match and an international vithin 48 hours.

Skerrett is due to lead Wales against England at Widnes on Sunday afternoon, but before that he and five other members of the Welsh side must come safely through the Halifax versus Sheffield game at Northampton on Friday night.

Three members of the original England squad are also involved in that game, plus the Halifax stand-off, Chris Chester, and Sheffield's Darren fit, despite a nagging ankle Turner, who have been added as cover for injuries.

We have two governing bodies, with neither interested in what the other is doing, putting pressure on players to play in both matches," Skerrett said.

"It should either have been made a full international, with players released from club games, or the Northampton game should have been changed with one involving fewer international players."

Wales trimmed their squad to 20 yesterday, leaving out Paul Moriarty, whose transfer to Bristol will preclude him from playing, but including lestyn Harris, who has assured Mike Nicholas, the Wales team manager, that he will he

injury.

Steve Blakeley is out of England's team, because of a foot problem that has kept him out of recent Salford games, but Andy Goodway, the England manager, is retaining him in his squad as team captain.

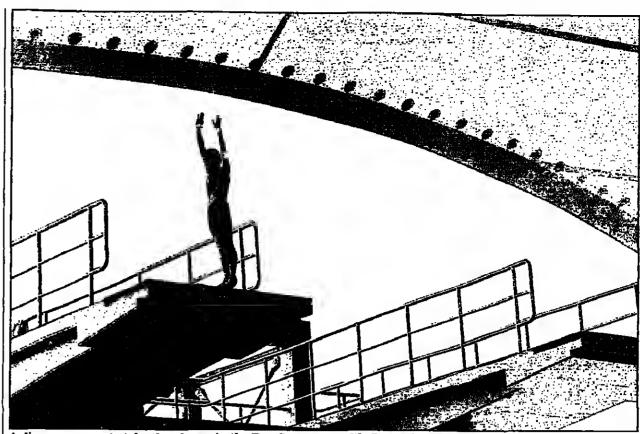
The captaincy for the match itself will not be decided until Saturday, with the two candidates, the Sheffield prop Steve Molloy and Halifax hooker Paul Rowley, both playing at Northampton the previous evening.

Hopes were high last night that Super League, the Rugby League and the First and Second Division Association would agree on a formula to govern promotion to Super League in

time for today's special meeting of clubs. The promotion issue is the one potential sticking point before clubs can agree on a £55m deal from Sky tele-

Wigan have appointed Peter Norbury, the club's solicitor for the past seven months, as their new chairman. Norbury replaces Mike Nolan, who resigned last week, Dave Whelan, the club's dominant shareholder, preferring to remain in the background. Whelan insists on the possi-

hility of promotion for lower division clubs. As be is the owner of JJB Sports, the sponsors of the Super League, that view must carry some weight with anyone hankering after a



A diver prepares to take the plunge in the Pre-Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. The games are a practice run for organisers before the main event takes place in September

FOLKESTONE

HYPERION

1.40 Castle Ashtıy Jack 2.10 Zmile 2.40 Jack Goodman 3.10 Prince Zando 3.40 JOHNNY STACCATO (nap) 4.10 Malayan Moon 4.40 Slip

GOINO: Good
STALLS: Straight course - stands side; Round - outside
DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best for 71 to 1m
Agith-hand, undulating course
Course is 6m W of fown off A20, Westenhanger station adjoins
course, ADMISSIDN: Club & Tattersalts C10; Picruc Park 64 per
course of the 64 per course of Index: No free CAB PARK; Free Car plus 64 per occupant. Under 188 free. CAR PARK: Free

**LEADING TRAINERS: R Hannon 16-131 (12.2%), J Ounlop 1246 (26.1%), M Channon 12-91 (13.2%), G L Moore 11-99 (11.1%),

**LEADING JOCKEYS: T Ouinn 13-129 (14%), T Sprake 12-87
(13.8%), A Whelan 11-75 (14.7%), S Browne 8-62 (12.9%),

**EAWOURITES: 181-522 (34.7%).

ALINKERED FIRST TIME; Soviet Lady (140), Tashkent (310), Sap

1.40 ORANJEBOOM CLASSIFIED CLAIMING

_		7 0150/E2 (L) (DIA I) \$23,000 \(\)
1	13-000	RADAR O'REALY (60) (D) R Williams 4 9 6 R Hills 11
2	505000	GAIN LINE (USA) (36) (D) C Dwyer 592 N Day 3 V
3	5-0000	MUKHILLES (18) Bob Jones 5 9 2 German Jones (7) 1
4	000303	CASTLE ASHEY JACK (32) (0) P Howing 4.90 I Golobed (7) to
5	50-040	GUNNERS GLORY (13) Mrs L Stuties 4 90 . T Sprake 12
6	060-54	LAST CHANCE (16) D Cosgrove 4 8 0 T Duinn 2
7	00255	DARK MENACE (16)(D) E Wheeler 68 12 B O'Leary (7) 9 B
8	054003	SOVIET LADY (12) (0) B Pearce 4 8 11 O Urbing 5 B
9	00-000	BARBRALLEN (18) Mrs L Jourd 8 8 9 R Hughes 4
10	00-00	MAGIC FALLS (75) M Polglese 3 8 8 W J O'Connor 8
11	-00063	FIRE GODDESS (14) JS Moore 3 8 5 P P Murphy (3) 10
12	040/00	SHANUKE (21) S Woodman 6 8 5 M Fenton 8
13	06-005	SHECANDO (14) E L James 3 8 2
ü	00000	FAR-SO-LA (294) R O'Sulivan 3 8 0 J Quinn 7

FORM VERDICT High numbers enjoyed a significant advantage over the straight 71 (going fast) at the last meeting (first stx in 16-numer hand-lasp drawn 14, 16, 13, 12, 10, 11) and it could be a similar sony today. Fire Goddens, in 10, is the obvious one but GUINNERS GLORY (nep), in stall 12 with Tim Sprake replacing a 7th claimer, is taken to spring a mild surprise in a week race.

SANDOWN

6.2S Deep Space 6.SS Pilot's Harbour 7.25

Musalsal 7.SS Jawah 8.25 Bold Tina 8.55

Course is on A307, 4m S of Kingston, Esher station (service from Landon, Waterloo) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club £17 Junior Club (17 · 21 yrs) £14; Grandstand & Paddock £12; Park

27-134 (201%), J Dunlop 21-121 (174%), J Gosden 17-112

(152%), In Hills 14-77 (126%), Dane O'Nelli 12-109 (11%).
■ FAVOURITES: 206-567 (345%).

6.25 EDMOND PETIT HANDICAP (CLASS D) \$5,000 added 5f

60-200 LORD HIGH AUMERIAL (11) (CL) IN TRIBUTE LIS CO. S. DICONTE T V. 201045 GOLDEN POUND (7) Miss G Kellowey 5 9 8P Publishen 9 B

TO 050404 HALF TONE (5) (CD) R M Plower 67 10 ___ F Norton S B 11 050404 HALF TONE (5) (CD) H M Power 5 7 U Pronous 5 I 11 declared Minimum weight: 7st 10th. The handlesp weight: Half Ione 7st 8th.
BETTING: 11-4 Claim Chief, 9-2 Nobelino, 7-1 Kram, 8-1 Half Tone, 10-1
Golden Pound, Mangus, The Fugative, Deep Space, 12-1 others

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Piped Aboard & Ardens (825).

CS CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: R Hannon 28-290 (9.7%), Sir M Sto

Tina Heights

STALLS: 5/ far side, remainder inside

ORAW ADVANTAGE: High for 517(& tm

Flight-hand course. Separate stiff 51 track

2.10 SPITFIRE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D)

_	£4,600 added 2YO 6f	
	0 ADMIRALS PLACE (23) R Armstrong 90 G Carter 1	
	5 FRANKLIN-D (37) J Jenkins 89 A McGlone 8	
	30 LETHAL HOPE (19) R Hannon 9 0 R Hughes 12	
	OTELLO D Elsworth 9 0. T Quitan 11	
	26 PAS DE PROBLEME (40) M Blanshard 9 0 J Quann B	
	35 TRIO (33) (BF) G Lewis 90	
	UNDETERRED C Wall 90	
	© 27401 E 177 B 1-26 90. R Hills 13	
	2 BOOMERANG BLADE (11) B Smart 89 J Stack 19	
	MAGIC MEMORIES D Elsworth B9 N Pollard (5) 3	
	43 SWEET CHARITY (16) M Jarvs 89 P Robinson 2	
	- 13 declared -	
77	MG- Q.d 7mile 6.1 Curret Charity 7.1 Day de Decklama Daymana	

Blade, 8-1 Lethal Hope, Trio, 10-1 Checky Mont

FORM VERDICT

A useful juvenile event and the draw fikely to play its part agent. Form horse ZMILE is probably vulnerable to a speedy type, but he is drawn well and is given the vote on that score. Cheeting Monkey has a bit to do from stall 5 but looks a lively new-corner along with Undeterred (stall 7).

2.40 KINGFISHER MAIDEN AUCTION

STAKES (F) £3,000 added 210 71
3 AMISTAD (22) C Dwyer 8 ft
ANSELL'S EDITION M Haynes 8 Tl P Rebinson 2
026 JACK GOODMAN (7) JS Moore 88 PP Murphy (3) 10
6 LAUTREC (12) R Waterns 88 T Quinn 13
060 FLEUR D'OR (6) M Polgtase 8 B F Norton 5
LOST IN LUCCA J HE 85 R HIES 8
55 PENANG PEARL (FH) (11) M Ourn 86 A Whelen 4
0 DOLPHIN FRIENDLY (11) J W Payre B3 G Center 12
000 MARTHA RELLY (11) Mrs B Waring 8 3 S Drowne 1
00 ROYAL TARRAGON (59) J Ameld 8 3 C Rutter 11
SPACE BABE R Harrion B3 . Done O'Neill 3
000 JANE ANN (4) A Jarvis 8 0
KENSTOWN GIRL R Ingram B 0 N Pollard (5) 5
- 13 declared -
TING: 4-1 Lautrec, 5-1 Pensing Pearl, Space Babe, 6-1 Jack Good-

tad, 8-1 Lost in Lucca, 10-1 Dolphin Friendly, 14-1 others

FORM VERDICT Lautree looks the one to best on his promising debut effort at Warwick in July and Amisterial looked open to a fair bit of improvement on his sole racecourse appearance. However, PENANG PEARL was extremely unlocky at Notingham fast time and provided she settles on this step up to 7t could be good enough to overcome her low draw.

FORM VERDICT

Deep Space has not had things go his way since an excel-lent opening second to Nuclear Debate and looks neely trea-ed, but he did not progress in his first season and, assuming no more serious run, preference is for CLAN CHIEF who has

6.55 HOUSE & GARDEN AUCTION SKY

FORM VERDICT

A districtly unappealing marder, with four runners having similar form claims, but none suggesting a win at a top track is imminent. In the circumstances it might be worth siding with a newcomer and Paul Coles LENNOX gets a tentative vote

7.25 PERCHERON CENTENARY SKY

- 6 declared DETTING: 5-4 Michanism, 5-1 Musaissi, 7a-Lim, 6-1 Alcazar, 7-1 Star Precision, 10-1 Taverner Society, 10-1 Another Fantasy, 68-1 Alfones
Gigantee

3.10 ORANJEBOOM CLASSIFIED CLAIMING STAKES (F) (DIV II) £3,000 7f

1	6-00000	PRINCE ZANDO (2) C Horgan 4 9 4 .	A McGlo
2	000000	ROFFEY SPINNEY (18) R Harmon 4 9 2 .	R Hugh
3	+0300	MY LEGAL EAGLE (18) J Hat. 490	Я НО
4	0.000	NO1 OUT LAD (260) P Butter 4 9 0	S Drown
5	.600-0	TASHKENT (44) R Smoson 6 9 9	A Gallagher
6	-05-100	SOAKING (18) (D) P Burgoyne 8 9 12	P McCa
7	/40-00	HEVER GOLF MAGIC (50) T J Nauction 4 B 1	T Sprak
8	33006/	PALACEGATE GOLD (832) (C) J Long 9.8 to	W J O'Com
9	310050	CORSECAN (20) (BF) 3 Dow 3 8 5 .	P Doe
TÚ	06-00	BECKENHAM INSIGHT (SB) D OBner 4 6 5	G Bardwell
n	0000	LAURENTIAN (13) N Burke 3 9 5	T Qui
r	-60000	CROFTERS EDGE (37) A Jarvs 3 8 4	J F Ega
13	0-560C	PEACEFUL SARAH (14) B Haroury 3 8 1	N Pollard
u		STIVER HOV (5) K Mr 3-446 3 2 11	C Dutte

Peaceful Sarah has the best recent form to her name and Consecun can be senously tanced on his AW form. However, both are drawn near the stands rail and, provided the runners switch to the lar side, that may well be a significant disadvantage. Consequently, the dropped in grade ROFFEY

3.40 SHEPHERD NEAME TERCENTENARY HANDICAP (D) £5,000 added 6f

1	-0.300	JUHNNY STACCATO (55) (D) H O'SUNON 4 9 %	,N. Polikird (5)
2	26-246	SHAMANIC (21) (D) (BF) S Woods 6 9 ft .	. T Quinn :
3	2.2231	EGO ANGHT (19) (GD) M Bel 3 9 10	M Fenton 7
4	2-0343	KHALIK (20) Mrs L Stubbs 4 9 6	T Sprake 1 B
5	0-6550	MASTER MAC (USA) (21) (D) J Akenurst 3 9 5	. A Clark :
5	064643	SEA-DEER (13) (D) C Dwyer 9 9 5	F Lynch !
7	20300	YOUNG MAZAAD (21) (C) D O'Bren 5 B 7	G Bardwell 2
8	464500	SCISSOR RIDGE (4) (D) J Bridger 6 B 0 - 8 declared -	,J Quinn 8
		-2 Ego Night, 9-2 Shamanic, Scissor Ridge, 1	

FORM VERDICT

Ego Night is nicely placed if electing to lace on the far side and he broke his duck in fairly good style when dropped to this trip last time, but the handcapper has done him no favours, Scissor Ridge is another who could be well drawn and has to be leared if the ground stays on top, However, SHAMANIC is the form pick and gets another chance after not getting the best of turis when favourite at Epsom, Johnny Staccato does not hold his form well, but returns after a short break with a useful 5to claimer aboard.

FORM VERDICT

return to 'm a' and softer ground tonight and will be difficult to best if anywhere near his best. Having said that Aleasem and Te-Lind are progressive three-year-olds and Musatlan has some very solid form to his name, so things may not be straight-

7.55 HOUSE & GARDEN STAYERS SKY

1 0.7000 GLOUD INSPECTOR (18) M Johnston 7 5 0 R Hillis 9
2 05-91 ULTIMATE SMOOTHIE (12) (D) M Pipe 6 9 12 K Fallon 3
3 22-16 TOUGH ACT (11) (BIF) Ms A Penret 4 9: D Harrison 4
4 53-90 MALE-ANA-MOU (19) D Esworth 5 9 6 N Politard (5) 2
5-56-94 ARCTIC THANDER (USA (18) B Palmog 7 9 5 T Sprake 19
6 4602-4 BRAND NEW DANCE (35) D Arbuthona 4 9 5
7 -00004 JAWAH (9) (D) K Marid 4 9 5
8 2-10-6 I NDIMAAN (27) J Duning 3 8 13 Pat Eddery 7
9 4-115 VERONICA FRANCO (19) (CD BF) P Hedger 5 8 17
Daré O'Neil 8
10 0044 GOLD MIST (20) R Amstrong 3 8 7 G Carter 8

- 11 declared -

ica Franco, 6-1 Tough Act, Jawah, Indimaej. Gold Mist. 10-1 others

RETTING: 7-2 Literate Smoothie, 6-1 Elliadde, 7-3 Cloud inspector, Veron

FORM VERDICT

Jaweh shaped as it returning to form tast time and indimata, is worth a try over this distance but backers will need good reason to oppose ULTIMATE SMOOTHIE who has boiled

up at Warwick on his last two starts, giving the strong impres-sion he has sufficient improvement in him to dely a 10th rise

8.25 RUBELLI HANDICAP (CLASS D)

0.532 CHINA RED (USA) (26) (D) J His J 10 7 R Hills 3 T Quant 9 9 Q 20 R RAKS (21) (C) Mrs L Subte 8 9 9 T Sprake 10 300061 M OUNT HOLLY (6) (D) K Mand 4 9 7 (6e) 1 T Quant 9 9 Q 20 C SUPER MONARCH (69) 5 Dow 4 9 3 P Doe (5) 14 R Hughes 4

6-1222 PIPED ABOARD (18) (BF) J Dunko 2 9 2 Par Eddery 8 B

8-2000 GLOUD INSPECTOR (18) M Johnston 7 to 0 R Hills 9

is clearly the form horse, will appreciate the

4.10 SUN LIK HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3YO 1m 4£

Maumum wegit: 7st 10th True handcap wegit: Jago 7st 7th BETTING: 9-4 King Prism, 3-1 Malayan Moon, 7-2 Premetic layed Reaction, 7-1 Zalien, 10-1 Oan Hol

FORM VERDICT

KING PRIAM is a confident choice in a weak race. He probably does not need to improve on his Newmarket second to will this, but could progress over this longer trip. Primaticolo, exposed for pace when tocurried at Hamilton, is the obvious threat while of the remaining quarter Malayan Moon makes appeal despite his stable not being in the best of form

4.40 BISHOP'S FINGER CERTIFICATION STAKES (F) £3,000 added 1m 1f 149yds 450164 SEA DANZIG (4) (D) J Proper 599.... H Stuctholme (5) 2 300456 CLASSIC FIND (USA) (E) (D) Pet Machel 595... M Fenton 3 - 7 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Iron Mountain, 4-1 Classic Find, 9-2 Sea Danzig, 5-1 Ocean Park, 7-1 Stip Venturn, 8-1 Praeditos, Incepta

FORM VERDICT

IRON MOUNTAIN has been found another good opportunity and is preferred to Incepts and Sea Danzig.

The Curragh trainer Jim Gorman scored the higgest win of his career when Dragon Triumph woo the £50,000 Ulster Harp Derby at Down Royal yesterday. Ridden by 22-year-old Robbie Fitzpatrick, Dragon Triumph held off the late challenge of the John Oxx-trained Renge. "It's wonderful. I can't believe it." Gorman said afterwards, "I backed France at 10-1 for the World Cup and I lumped a lot of those winnings on Dragon Triumph."

3463 GIKO (11) J R Postori 4 8 8 N Pollard (5) 6 -53226 BOLD TINA (26) R Harron 4 8 6 . . . Dane O'Nottl 13

FORM VERDICT

An especially difficult handicap, in which the only assured frontrunner China Rod could easily go close if the ground stays
good. Mount Holly is another with obvious claims having wor
a similar race at Newmarker last week, but narrow preference
on value grounds is fol SONG OF SKYE, who has run better
than her finishing position indicates in stronger events of late.
The stables form is a worry, but there are doubtes about all the
runners for one reason or another, not least Piped Aboard
(binkers) and Gilko (might not get stiff enough test at trip.)

8.55 PERCHERON MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5.000 added 1m 2f

9 LOCH DANCER (30) A RENOTING T 9 - ... F MILLIPHY SIJ Z

OD CARVER DOONE (28) D Chappel 3 9 12 ... A McGloue 5

MUNAZA (USA) R ARTISTICT 3 8 12 ... R Hitle 4

NEY ACADEMY C Horgan 5 8 7 ... T Quist 1

O-522 MILLING (35) (8F) R Guest 2 8 7 ... K Fellon 3

TINA NEIGHTS J Farshave 3 6 7 ... D Harrison 8

- 8 declared -BETTING: 11-10 Milling, 7-2 Muneza, 5-1 Silesia, 8-1 Tina Heighte, 12-1 Cervei Doone, 14-1 Key Academy, 20-1 Joli's Son, 33-1 Loch Dencer

FDRM VERDICT Almost certainty a below-average marden for the track and thank-less for bening though form choice Milling is clearly vulner-able to an above-average sort. The market will tell its own story about the newcomers, but for now MUNAZA is preferred to The Melahette.

Hart accuses England of secret filming

RUGBY UNION

BY CHRIS HEWETT

HOW PARANOID are the All Blacks these days? John Hart, probably the most successful coach in world rugby and until now the most self-assured, yesterday accused England of employing espionage tactics during their recent two-Test series in New Zealand. Given that the tourists conceded more than 100 points and umpteen tries to their hosts, it can only be assumed that having secured some illicit video footage of Jonah Lomu and company in training, they then forgot to watch it.

The only snippet of film viewed at any length by the England players during their uncomfortable sojourns in Dunedin and Auckland was that incriminating Ian Jones, the New Zealand lock, who somehow escaped censure for his brutish stamp on the face of Graham Rowntree at Carishrook - an assault that might match with South Africa in easily have cost the Leicester Wellington on Saturday week, prop his left eye. Intriguingly, the All Blacks were in no great rush to discuss that particular uncertainty as well as over-

Hart, the author of two volumes of rugby autobiography. complete outside-half in the now appears to be working on a Le Carré-esque third tome his team's training sessions era-wielding impostor, who

named England player. "It's not something I've given much thought to hecause I didn't think it would happen, hut I guess it's something you have to consider because it could well become part of the professional game," he said.

Hart swept aside any suggestion that Australia, who beat New Zealand to Melbourne last weekend, had employed similarly underhand tactics, "I don't think the Wallabies would stoop that low," he said pointedly. A baffled RFU spokesman

dismissed Hart's comments. "The England management and team can categorically deny that any member of the tour party was involved in or invited any filming." he said. "A copy of an amateur video filmed by a rugby fan of a New Zealand open session before the first Test in Dunedin was given to the management, but it bore no relation to the preparations for the game.

Judging by Hart's selection for New Zealand's Tri-Nations the All Blacks have fallen victim to uncharacteristic levels of sensitivity.

Andrew Mehrtens, the most

game, has been dropped along with the centre Scott McLeod. provisionally entitled Tinker, and the left wing Joeli Vidiri. Tailor, Flanker, Spy. Much to the astonishment of the Rugby off berth, Mark Mayerholler Football Union, he claimed that returns in midfield and Lomu, unceremoniously dumped had been infiltrated by a cam- among the replacements in Melbourne, is also recalled. then rushed the film to the "I've seen a marked improve-England hotel. The information, ment in Jonah over the last couhe added, came from an un- ple of weeks," Hart said.

Akinwande back in frame for Holyfield

BOXING

EVANDER HOLYFIELD'S world heavyweight title defence against Henry Akinwande could be back on after being cancelled when the British boxer tested positive for the hepatitis B virus a day before their scheduled meeting last month for the International Boxing Federation and World Boxing Associatipo belts. Akinwande's most recent blood test has shown the residual strain of the virus in his system is non-infectious.

Jim Thomas, Holyfield's solicitor, said: "We have a situation where it has become more likely than not that this fight will go forward as soon as it's practicable." One possible date for the encounter is 29 August at Madison Square Garden, New York, the site of the original fight, which has been scheduled by promoter Don King and American pay-per-view channel Showtime executive Jay Larkin.

Akinwande could still be denied a licence by the New York since the virus still is detectable ponents." in his blood. However, a positive test can occur even after a of first refusal on any dates, and

cial success. could be Las Vegas on 5 Sep- Vaughn Bean in the autumn.

aborted fight was not a finan-

tember. Holyfield has also received a £12.5m offer from the HBO television channel to fight World Boxing Council champioo Lennox Lewis and unify the heavyweight belts. Holyfield. however, will not commit himself to fight Lewis in December until the Akinwande situation is settled. "I have to listen to my body," Holyfield said, adding he would prefer to fight Lewis in the spring.

Lewis's manager, Frank Maloney, said yesterday: "I'm happy for it to go on any time, so long as it can happen. That's the important thing, be it springtime or the end of 1999, as long as we have got the guarantee. But I've learned in boxing that the longer you put off these hig fights, something can always happen."

A spring fight against Holyfield will give Lewis room to fit in another defence after his meeting with Croatia's Zeljko Mayrovic in Uncasville, Connecticut on 26 September. Maloney added: "We're currently State Athletic Commission, looking at the list of future op-

The former IBF champion, Michael Moorer, is one option, person recovers. Madison Lou Savarese - recent con-Square Garden also has rights queror of the former undisputed world champion Buster managers there are said to be Douglas - is another and the not enthusiastic, since the first. American prospect Michael Grant is also on the shortlist. Holyfield has also to consider a An alternative site and date mandatory IBF defence against

WORCESTER

S.45 John Tufty 6.15 Gning Fnr Broke 6.45 Pride Of Kashmir 7.15 Newton Mist 7.45 Kazawari 8.15 Supposin 8.45 Meldrum Park

GING: Good to Firm.

Left-hand course, level with long straights.

Left-hand course, level with long straights.

Course is on the A443 by River Severn. Worcester (Foregate St) station fm. ADMISSION: Members 213; Tattersells 210; Course S50 (OAPs 22.75). CAR PARK: Free, pionic area parlung 23.

LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 47-38 (24.1%). O Nicholson 27-75 (35%). K Beilley 20-77 (29%). G Balding 17-77 (22.1%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 56-88 (28.8%). A Misguine 23-120 (19.2%). C Liewellyn 23-136 (16.9%). W Marston 17-157 (10.8%).

FAVOURITES: 23.4-614 (38.1%).

BLRIKERED FIRST TIME: Kriscilite & Drama King (545). John Turty Miscrycol 545).

5.45 SUDDINGTON SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (G) £2,000 added 2m 4f

FORM VERDICT A competitive start to the card with puriters guaranteed a good return if finding the witner. Mutawall has been in great form recently and should run well, North Bannister is interesting but lack of e recent run is a concern, HULLO MARY DOLL is tentative selection to build on the promise she showed on her seasonal debut; Cashflow Crisis, Miss Souter and Rading

6.15 NORTON NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E)

- 13 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Going For Broke, 5-1 Buildinch, 5-1 Zorba, 6-1 Rake Hey. 14-1 Pullicander, 16-1 Rockville Pike, Grovetair Lad, 20-1 others

FORM VERDICT A week name hunder with few holding reastic chances. GOINO FOR BROKE has been in good heart recently, handles tast ground, and halfs from an in-torm yard; he is strongly fancied to make all from Bulltlinch.

6.45 LINCOMB HANDICAP HURDLE SKY HCQ-6 DRAMA KING (18) B Lieuwiyn 8 103 B Fenton B 0 061-55 DRNKY DORA (19) (CD) J K Cresswel 5 100 D Byrnte 6/6-05 CHRISTS GLEN (39) (C) J M Bradley 9 10 0 R Johnson B FRODP ENCHANTED COTTAGE (18) (D) K Bradgware 6 10 0 R

Managy (3) - 12 declared -Hiteinum weight: 10st. Tue handicap weights: Dinky Dora 9st 95t, Chris s Glan 9st 9th, Enchanned Cottago 9st 8th. BETTING: 4-I Patiedium Boy, 5-1 litegal Allen, 6-1 Pride Of Kashmir, 7-1 Northern Maestro, 6-1 Krisciffe, High Low, Chris's Glan, 10-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Most of these have a chance on form over the last 12 months but the two most likely to put their best foot forward are Ever Smile and ILLEGAL ALIEN. The latter is going the right way since his arrival from treland and ments the selection.

7.15 HIGH GREEN NOVICE HANDI-CAP CHASE (E) \$4,500 2m | Feeder | LORD ESKER (249) (D) P Nacole 6 to 2
| 349.31 CHIEF GALE (18) (D) J O'Stee 6 to 6
| 3 20/5-2 HUNTERS HEAVEN (17) J Maches 7 to 6
| 4 20/7 HUNTERS HEAVEN (17) J Maches 6 to 7
| 4 20/7 HUNDAS (CROWN (2) D Maches 6 to 7
| 5 383-4-3 TRIOMAS HOPE (3) E CARRES 9 to 5
| 8 U2490 HENNERWOOD OAK (7) 6-J PAKE 6 to 2
| 9 024/5 DOCTOR-J (17) (D) E Mercelyn 8 to 2
| 10 000-0 BATH KNIGHT (25) G J Moore 5 to 7
| 10 000-0 BATH KNIGHT (25) G J Moore 5 to 7
| 10 000-0 BATH KNIGHT (25) G J Moore 5 to 7
| 10 000-0 BATH KNIGHT (25) G J Moore 5 to 7
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| 10 000-0 BATH KNIGHT (25) G J Moore 5 to 7
| 10 000-0 BATH KNIGHT (25) G J Moore 5 to 7
| 10 000-0 BATH KNIGHT (25) G J Moore 5 to 7
| 11 FOO.4 JOLLY JAMES (32) Mrs M Jones 7 to 0
| 12 SKO-P KILLYS RUJ (19) JM Brodey 2 to 6
| 13 FOO.4 TEE TEE TOO (18) F Jordan 6 to 7
| 14 declared - 1
| 14 declared - 1
| 15 KHEDOR (7) KHEDOR (7) KHEDOR (7) KHEDOR (7) - 14 declared -Mountain weight: 10st True handcap weight: Julie Jamet 9s: 17th hilly s Fally 9s 9b. Hymburn Bridge 9s: 9b. Lee Ten 10o 5s: 75 BETTING: 4-1 Chief Gele, 9-2 Lord Esker, 11-2 Newton Miss, 6-1 Thomas Crown, 13-2 Hunters' Heaven, 10-1 Listaughtin Abbey, 12-1 others

FORM VERDICT A moderate contest with LORO ESKER selected to outclass

his rivals. He showed plenty of promise in Ireland last year and can score at the chief expense of Thomas Crown who may find tonight's trip on the sharp side.

7.45 PEOPLETON NOVICE HURDLE SKY CCLASS E) \$22,900 2ff 41

OP6-1 KAZAWARI (28) M Pipe 5 π 5

RS64- ATTLE (88) 8 Presce 9 10 12

OC0 BARNETTS BOY (18) J M Bradler 6 11

OC05-J MO'S BOY (16) Ms 5 Smm 7 10 6

3 SHALLAINES PRIDE (39) T McCover 1 10

OC05-J MO'S BOY (16) Ms 5 Smm 7 10 6

3 SHALLAINES PRIDE (39) T McCover 1 10

OC05-J MO'S BOY (16) Ms 5 Smm 7 10 6

G F Ryan (3)

OC03 SUGA HAWK (25) J O'Shea 6 10 12

Michael Brennan

OC05-J M Bradler 5 11

OC05-J M Bradl - 10 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Kazawari, 4-1 The Carrier Man. 5-1 Holloa Away. 6-1 Sha-laines Prida, 7-1 Mo's Boy. 6-1 Suga Hawk. 20-1 Artie, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT Martin Pipes French import KAZAWARI det not cost intucti white he was picked up after winning a French claimst distrime but will probably open his account in Emain at the first time of asking. The most interesting of his opponents is another making his debut here, the ex-linsh The Caviar Man who icces prefly

8.15 CALLOW END HANDICAP SKY 12735; MILE A MINUTE (F5) J Neville 7 2 (A P McCoy B (30-F) SILVER STANDARD (19) (C) H Dal 6 11 R Thornton B

Cumail Crosset 9st 3to Contage Course 8st 115
BETTING: 4-1 Zancon, 5-1 Silver Standard, 6-1 Great Gusto, 7-1 Super Ritchart, 8-1 Mile A Minute, Supposit. Via Del Quatro, 14-1 others FDRM VEROICT

This looks like a superb opportunity for ZAITOON to get off the mark over fences Mille A Minute would make him strug-gle if reasonably in after his long lay-oft.

8	PIRTON STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT
1	0 CAUGHT AGAIN (18) (BF) Ninerdeson 5 TI 4 J R Kavanagh
2	(* BLEPHANTS CHILD (236) A Cartal 5 m 4 B Powell
3	GUNNER SCORE D Duggan 5 11 4 C Hyres (7)
4	KINGS OWN Miss L Dents 5 H 4 . S Fox
5	0+0 PENINSULA BOY (7) P Baven 5 TI 4 W Marston
6	P.F. TIMMYJOHN (72) JJ ON÷3 6 T ↓ G Bradley
Ŧ	WESTFIBLD COCKNEY J Hatherton F TI
8	10-2 SAHARA REEM (16) (D) J Norton 4 ft 3 Mighael Brennan
9	O BLUE CHIEFTAIN (39) ! Grassick 4 TI 1 Mr J Grassick
10	BROWN TURKEY RUKING 6 10 G O Gallegher
77	9 CHACELEY LASS (39) & Yardey 6 10 TO Mr S Stronge (7)
ĸ	2 CHORDY (18) Urs S Smm 5 70 13 G F Ryan (3)
C	DICKS DARLIN' H Manners 5 to 13
14	MELDRUM PARK F Micphy 5 10 13 A P McCoy
15	D. PEARHELL ROSY (60) 6 Process 6 10 13 Littr H Ephgrave (7)
16	130 PRINCESS HELEN (7) & J Froz 5 10 13 . S Durack (3)
17	D BAY OF PLENTY (18) J Dufosee 4 10 10 P Henley (3)
18	2. FLAGSHIP THERESE (94) (BF) ? Necholis 4 TO 10T J Minimply
	- 18 declared -

BETTING: 5-2 Flagship Therese. \$-1 Sahara Reem, 6-1 Chordy, 8-1 Caught Again, Mekirum Parit, 14-1 Peninsula Boy, 16-1 others FORM VERDICT

Sahara Reem is the pick of those that have run before in this country though Chordy showed promise on her debut here. Meldrum Park must be noted in the belting because there is plenty to like about her on paper but the most likely womer of this would appear to be the Paul Nichols-trained insh import FLAGSHIP THERESE

Solanki repairs Flintoff's damage

VIKRAM SOLANKI continued his revival in form to hold the Worcestershire innings together yesterday after his former England Under-19 team-mate, Andrew Flintoff had threatened to put Lancashire in complete control of the County Championship match at Lytham.

Flintoff is regarded as one of England's most exciting batting prospects but it was his nippy bowling - restricted this season by a back problem - which swung the game in favour of Lancashire. In the space of six overs he

sent back Graeme Hick, Worcestershire skipper Tom Moody and the in-form David Leatherdale to reduce the visitors to 142 for 5 on a seaming wicket of variable bounce. But Solanki, who scored his maiden one-day century

prevented a total collapse in a stand of 79 in just 18 overs with wicketkeeper Steve Rhodes. He survived two dropped chances but also reeled off a series of splendid drives to reach 87 off 133 balls with 15 fours hefore falling to the persever-

against Derbyshire on Sunday

ance of Ian Austin. It has been a much-needed return to form for Solanki who had managed just 112 runs in eight first-class innings since his 155 against Sussex - his maiden championship 100 - at the end of May.

His efforts helped Worcestershire to reach 261 for 7 with Rhodes continuing the revival with a defiant 44 before falling in the final over - the 80th - to Peter Martin as wicketkeeper Warren Hegg picked up his fifth catch of the day.

Title-chasing Lancashire were left to reflect on what might have been after spilling five catches and failing to bowl the consistent line and length



Guy Hodgson meets an England captain ready to face Australia without an inferiority complex

know better. Call something the Ashes and Australians subject you to decades of sporting gloom, lightened only by occalight. But try telling that to survived a rain-affected defeat at Scarborough on Sunday. They are determined to commit the folly.

Next Tuesday at Lord's, a bat will be ceremoniously set alight and part of the charred remains will be stuffed into a est cricket trophy we probably will not see much of again. Brace yourselves for generations of Down Under domi-

Or maybe not, Unlike their women have at least won the World Cup and can see an Australian cricket cap without suffering a sharp sense of inferiority. There are even grounds for believing the Ashes something the men have not ough, is not reappointed. managed since 1986-87.

The Australians are the

YOU MIGHT think they would Test match length and if England can hold on to the coat-tails they might prevail over the longer distance. That is the sional and unexpected shafts of theory anyway, and one that

"A lot of positive things came out of that game," Karen Smithies, the England captain. said. "There's a thing throughout English cricket that the Australians are always better mounted ball to become the lat- than us, but although we are underdogs we know we can beat them. The one-day series will be important in terms of confidence, and that will be very

The series resumes today at male counterparts, England's Derby before going on to Hove and Southampton at the weekend, and Lord's next week. After that, the captain for the three Tests (each lasting three days) will be announced, and it would be a surprise if Smithies, might stay in this country, top scorer with 41 in Scarbor-

As Smithies bas been in the England team for 12 years and



time at international level, but she is only 29 and, as Sunday proved, is some way short of her sell-by date. As the standard of English women's cricket has got better, so has she.

Awarded the OBE after England won the World Cup under her leadership, she bas presided over the national team at a time when they have gone from being a slightly eccentric offshoot of the game to being accepted into its core, the Engworld one-day champions, but captain for six, it is easy to re-are relatively inexperienced at gard her as living on borrowed BSkyB will screen today's in 1993 but gained ample re-

match as well as Sunday's encounter at Southampton, and there will also be coverage of the Test series.

It is a considerable departure from her own start when she used to get a game with her Leicestershire - going on to captain the boys' Under-18 side for two seasons - and one that was given its biggest shove by England's World Cup win five years ago.

venge in India last year when journey with only three hours' they recorded an eight-wicket win en route to becoming world champions. "They are the best washed out by rain. team around without any doubt," Smithies said. "Their fielding is superb, in skipper Be-

is probably the fastest female bowler in the world." Even so, England's demise that day was undoubtedly aided by a nightmare preparation

linda Clark they have one of the

hest batters in the women's

game and Cathryn Fitzpatrick

out of sight, and all of a sudden sleep before having to catch a we were up against a good outplane, and a practice session fit, It was bit of a massacre." Demoralising it might have

The schedule we had was horrendous, it should never happened," she said. "Early get-ups, 20-hour days, they were the norm and when you take into account the travel and the different food, it wasn't practical. Not when you're trying to play international cricket.

"The game in Nagpur was a shock to us because we'd been

next best thing to winning the Swann sings

Denmark, who we'd thrashed

been, but it has given the cur-

rent series a sharper edge.

"Australia are always the ones

you want to play against," sbe

said, "particularly now they

are world champions and they

took the crown off us. It's a hit

of a needle contest. I'd re-

gard winning this tour as the

Sri Lanka unsettled by Parsons' blows

BY DEREK HODGSON at Taunton

Somerset 366-6 dec Sri Lanka 8-2

THE SCORE suggests that the selectors' nightmare - England losing the series to South by Sri Lanka at The Oval - is no more than that.

was more complex. Somerset. now well attuned to this

exercises, sweater-clad and blowing on their hands. Sri Lanka's first one-day

match, at Southampton, was washed out. For this fixture they rested three of their printiah Muralitharan. The pitch was slow and flat, the clouds dri-The opening day of the tour ven by a stiff crosswind.

a comparatively easy ride by a Tests but the margins were by ditions was vital if the tropby is stump, the innings droned prize Vodafone is offering win-

Donald and Shaun Pollock shared 20 wickets while the Muralitharan took 16 of the 33 South African wickets.

The Sri Lankans are also needled by the fact that again cipals, the batsmen Arjuna they have been granted only Ranatunga and Aravinda de one Test in England, not suffitheir status as the World Cup holders. Several senior players were

There is a guide to form in reluctant to come to England Sri Lanka's tour of South Africa until their board pointed out wretched summer, were given last March. True, they lost both that experience of English con-

team going through their 70 runs and six wickets; Allan to be defended successfully

Somerset's Marcus Trescothick had two escapes, snicking between wicket and slip when on 20 and had a dolly dropped at first slip eight runs later. Yet Somerset were past 200 before he played on, the impressive late outswing, innings of real quality coming Keith Parsons then took from Mark Lathwell, a 56 studded with some offside gems. His eight fours made Trescothick's 10 look laboured.

Once Lathwell had gone, aiming again outside his off- hopes of netting the £11,000 putting players' names on

along as Sri Lanka gave their bowlers needed overs. The pick was the tall seamer. Pramodya Wickramasinghe. He made a hesitant start but still finished his first spell of eight overs with a commendable 2 for 29 and thereafter demonstrated an

handsomely once past 50, and, alongside Adrian Pierson, he event can attract 475 million steered Somerset into a posi-

erset off 208 balls, 16 fours, the declaration leaving Sri Lanka five overs. The tourists then lost their star, Sanath Jayasuriya. when he trod on his stumps in

The small, cheerful crowd Leicestershire 41-3 the anchor role, straight driving to identify the players. Surely, foot of the Championship table, at a time when one sporting television viewers, even firsttion from where they have class cricket could stoop to

pionship programme,

Knight's opening partner.

Lancashire on 29 June.

expected to resume as Nick

changed from the defeat hy

The side is likely to be un-

and make the most of it. Northamptonshire managed the first two requirements here yesterday, but the last looked well heyond them when Alan Mullally took them apart with the new ball. However, they were kept in The 1994 and 1995 champions are starting a spell of three suc-

BY MIKE CAREY

Northamptonshire 322

WHEN YOU are anchored at the

it is important to identify a

good batting pitch, win the toss

at Leicester

contention by the prolific Mal Love and, more surprisingly perhaps, Graeme Swann who, at 19, is in his first season. Under the circumstances their batting might have been gritty. heads-down stuff, but it was far from that - fluent, aggressive and, not least, full of class.

Their partnership of 111 in 28 overs does not look much statistically, hut it put what had gone before firmly into perspective. More than that, the sheer hravura of their strokeplay must have given great heart to a side for whom little has gone right this sea-

No team should be bowled

elegant tune breeze to bring the ball back into the right-hander, must have made everyone wonder; in 20 balls he removed Rob Bailey. with the aid of Phil Simmons'

> ft-handed slip catch. Russell Warren and David Sales. Loye and Swann joined forces at 124 for 6, perhaps sensing that when the new ball lost its hardness there would be few problems. At 18, though, Loye might have been run out if Darren Maddy had hit with his throw from cover. That apart, he did not require much luck and the correctness of his

technique was a joy to watch. Swann was no less impressive. At four he survived a difficult slip catch off Chris Lewis, significantly while Simmons was off the field having treatment. Several bowlers then explored a theory that he might he vulnerable to something short, but that was quickly dispelled by any number of crisp strokes off the back foot.

A series of elegant drives took him past his previous high score, 49, and an admirable maiden century beckoned until he was caught behind.

He had not only faced 118 balls, hitting 14 fours and a six, but had illustrated that no matter how gloomy the present, the out cheaply on this pitch, but Mullally, helped by a stiff cross-tonshire. tonshire.

Cullinan cuts loose for double century

By Myles Hodgson at Chester-le-Street

South Africa 362-3 dec

Durham 10-0

DARYLL CULLINAN hit his highest score for South Africa to caim the tourists' nerves on the opening day of their Vodafone Challenge match against Durham after a succession of injuries jeopardised their preparations for next week's fourth Test

The 31 year old finished unbeaten on 200 as South Africa declared on an imposing 362 for 3 and he shared in a 232-run third-wicket partnership with the injured opener Gerhardus Liebenberg. Although the South Africa coach Bob Woolmer will have been delighted with Cullinan's form, the growing casualty list will be causing him concern.

Shaun Pollock, without a first-class innings since the second Test at Lord's, was withdrawn at short notice after feeling a hamstring tighten while warming up and Jacques Kallis (hamstring), Lance Klusener (ankle) and Adam Bacher (dislocated collarbone) are still receiving treatment. To increase Woolmer's anxiety, Liebenberg retired hurt in the fifth over after being struck by fast bowier Melvyn Betts. After X-rays confirmed there was no fracture, he returned to the crease for a gutsy half-century.

Cullinan began slowly but, after reaching his half-century off 122 deliveries, grew in confidence during a 70-run secondwicket stand with the captain Hansie Cronje.

Rafique weaves his magic over Scotland on day of controversy

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

MOHAMMED RAFIQUE, the decisions by the leading Scot-Bangladesh spinner, yesterday tish umpire, David Potter. Bangladesh spinner, yesterday cast a spell over Scotland's batsman with a devastating five-wicket haul as the tourists enjoyed the upper hand at the start of the second three-day match at Boghall, Linlithgow. With Scotland dismissed for 199, Bangladesh negotiated 12 overs to reach 19 for 0 by the However the left-handed

Rafique, who finished the day with figures of 5 for 44, was helped by two controversial

Britannic Assurance

Gjoucestershire v Sussex

SUSSEX - First Inning

Excras (lb2 nb10).....

N J Trainor low b Lewry ...

J Lewis not out

County Championship

CHELTENHAM (Day 1 of 4): Gloucese

GLOUCESTERSHIRE - First Innings

2-0-8-1. Umpires: D J Constant and T E Jesty.

Lancashire v Worcestershire

Total (72.1 overs) 191
Fatts 1-11, 2-23, 3-38, 4-89, 5-100, 6-140, 7-140, 8-176, 9-177.
Bossillogs C A Walsh 21, 1-3-52-3, A M Smyth 18-10-30-3, J
Lewis 15-3-42-3, M W Alleyne 12-2-46-0, M C J Ball 6-1-19-

Bowling: J O Lewry 8-2-26-1, R J Kirtley 7-1-29-0, R 5 C Martin-Jenkins 8-6-15-1, M A Robinson 6-1-15-0, M G Beyan

LYTHAM (Day 1 of 4): Lancashire (3pts), Worcestershire

W P C Weston c Hegg b Martin.......21 0 2 54 51

.......50 0 0 850 0 12 91 nkirs 13 0 2 4417 0 2 34

First to suffer was George Salmond, who was given out to a bat-pad catch when the ball appeared neither to touch his bat nor carry to the fielder.

counted for West of Scotland's Craig Wright, who was adjudged run out, having passed the stumps before the Bangladesh players' muted appeal prompted the finger to go up again.

home crowd something to cheer with his highest in-The same official later ac-

his fifth victim. Greig Williamson, from Clydesdale, at least gave the

5 J Rhodes c Hegg b Martin ...

ternational score. The combative batsman hammered three buge sixes - one which saw the ball disappear out of the ground - on his way to a fine 67 hefore he was last out, caught on the boundary to give Rafique

Earlier, Dougie Lockhart had looked good in reaching 48 before he was needlessly run out, while Salmond had moved purposefully to 20 before his controversial dismissal

Total (81-5 overs) 322

Folz: (81-5 overs) 322

Folz: (1-1), 2-14, 3-28, 4-69, 5-110, 6-124, 7-235, 8-274, 9-275, 8-245, 8-244, 9-275, 8-245, 8-245, 8-245, 8-245, 8-245,

.....5 0 1 15 ...16 0 2 25

......16 0 2 25 3918 0 4 31 4710 0 2 19 3092 1 14 118 135

.....41 1 6 50 591 0 0 5 3

Leicestershire v Northamptonshire

NORTHAMPTOMSHIRE - First innings

t0 Ripley c Nixon b Multilly 10 G P Swann c Nixon b Millins 92 J P Taylor c Nixon b Lewis 41 F A Rose b Brimson 1

LEICESTERSHIRE - First landings

V.J Wells Ibw b Rose..

Total (for 2, 3.3 overs) ...

A L Penberthy c Habib b Mulially...

The Nottinghamshire play-ers, Jason Gallian and Paul Strang, were in good form at the Scarborough Festival as the Lord's Taverners beat the Heartache's XI by 15 runs to mark the end of the carnival stage of the event. The Festival continues today

with the Championship match hetween Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire and officially ends on Sunday when the two sides meet in the AXA League. Gallian hit 79 and Strang an unbeaten 53 as the Taverners

Warwickshire v Hampshire

AXA League

EDGBASTON (One day):

WARWICKSHIRE - First In

N V Knight c Udal b Hartley.

8 C Lara Ibw b Harriey
O I Hemp c Whitaker b Mascavenhas
T L Penney Ibw b Harriey
O R Brown Ibw b Stephenson
A F Glies c and b Udal
G Welch run out
M A Shelikh Ibw b Stephenson
K J Piber noc out

reached 198 for 7 in their 35 overs and the Heartache's fell 15 runs short despite a fine 83 by the former Surrey and England batsman Graham Roope, now playing League cricket in Yorkshire.

with his leg breaks to complete a good day for the Nottinghamshire pair. Brian Lara, the Warwick-

cessive home fixtures after falling into the bottom three with only two wins in eight Michael Powell, who has Strang also took 3 for 34 captained the second team during a 16-day break in the Cham-

Other Match

shire captain, knows he needs

to improve a disappointing Championship record this season when Warwickshire meet

> Somerset v Srl Lanka TAUNTON (Day 1 of 3): M N Lathwell c Kaluwitharana b W'singhes6 0 8 81 104 K A Parsons not out. 101 0 16 147 23 8 35 M Burns b Bandaratileke 13 0 2 38 35 A R K Pierson c Tillakaratne b W'singhe39 0 5 111 131 1L O Sutton not out. 3 0 17 18 Extras | b2 | b10 w 2 nb 10 | ... 24 lotal | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 dec, 96.1 overs | ... 366 84 | for 6 de

Heartaches XI v The Lord's Taveners

Today's fixtures (11.00 unless stated)

SCARBOROUGH (One day): The Lord's Taveners (198-7) best Heartaches XI (183-7) by 15 runs.

Vodafone Challenge Series

Durham v South Africa RIVERSIDE (Day 1 of 3):

SOUTH AFRICA — First buildes

DURHAM - First lankes J J B Lewis not out.. ..

SRI LANKA — First Innings

Durham won tos:

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (First day of four):
Southend: Essex v Kent. Guildford: Surrey v Middlese. Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Hampshire. Scarborough: Vorkshire
v Nottinghamshire. BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CHAMPINONSHIP (Second day of Pour): Chakenshime: Gloucestershire
v Sussex. Lytham: Lancastire v Worcestershire. Leicestershire testite v Northamptonshire. I (2,00). VODAPONE CHALLENGE.
SERIES (Second day of twee): Riverside: Durham v South Africa.
Tauntom: Somerset v Sri Lanka. SECOND WOMEN'S ONE DAY
INTERNATIONAL: Derbyt England v Australia (10,45). Rans 6s 4s Bis MinS 0 0 20 286 0 1 22 28

BINIS

He reached his century with his 19th boundary and added a further 18 boundaries on his way to a personal landmark.

حكذا من الاعل

Flintoff's Money talks for world's fastest

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

FRANKIE FREDERICKS, ooe of the Golden Gala's most successful and popular competitors of the last six years, was persuaded to change his mind and appear in last night's 100m here after frantic behind the scenes activity from the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

The double Olympic silver medallist had refused to run in the second of the six scheduled Golden League meetings because he was unhappy about the amount of appearance money he had been offered. It was thought to be no higher than midway on the sliding scale hetween £6,000 and £36,000 oo offer.

But his absence would have been embarrassing to the IAAF especially after Fredericks' unexpected 100m victory in the first of the Golden League meetings at Oslo on Thursday.

The Gala organisers were in difficulties, however, because after Fredericks' initial refusal, they had earmarked money that would have gone towards his fee to help secure two other leading sprinters, Ato Boldon, the world 200m champion, and Maurice Greene, the world 100m champion, who was beat-

en by Fredericks in Oslo. than he would have wished while also accepting a nod and a wink from the IAAF over generous funding for current plans to establish a develop-

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 $q_{22}, p_{12}, p_{13} \in \mathbb{R}^{n}$

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ment programme for the sport in Fredericks' native country. Fredericks is revered in his omeland - his home town of

Windhoek now boasts a Frankie Fredericks Drive and was ready to settle for Rome's proposed quid pro quo. The IAAF has also had some

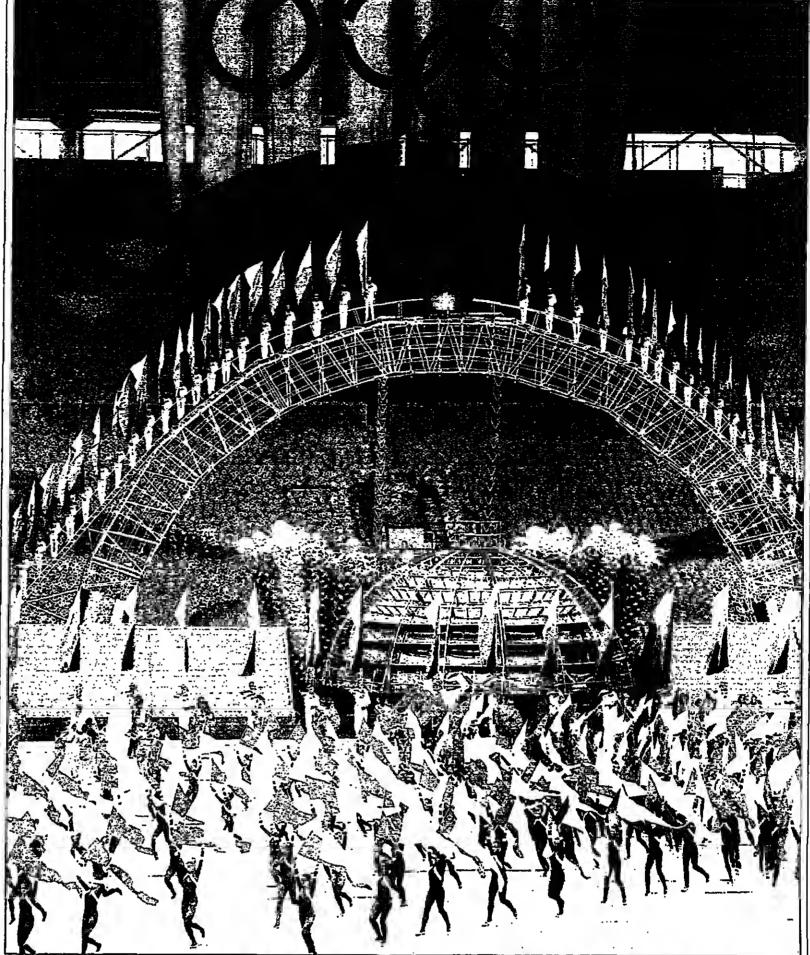
sweaty work to do to secure the television rights holders, Canal Plus, who were rumoured earlier this month to be on the hrink of pulling out of the Golden League because they could not show the climax to the whole affair, the Grand Prix Final in Moscow on 5 Septemher, which has already beeo signed up by the rival European Broadcasting Union.

But Canal Plus have remained aboard, and the IAAF has its wish, even though the actioo is being shown only on subscription or pay per view channels in France, Spain, Germany, Poland, Italy and Greece.

British viewers must content themselves with BBC's live coverage of the Zurich meeting on 8 September, and recorded highlights of other meetings on Channel 4's Sunday magazine

Last night's action got underway in appropriately steamy conditions in froot of a live audience that, as usual, appeared sparse in the vastness of the Stadio Olimpico.

While Fredericks was safely secured by the organisers, Eventually, the Namihian they found themselves without accepted a fee that was lower a world champion - Cathy Freeman, the Australian who won gold over 400m in Athens last year, was forced to scratch because of a reported stress fracture of her left leg.



The spectacular opening ceremony of the World Youth Games gets under way in the Luzhniki stadium, Moscow, in front of the Russian Pres-

Heyman gives Whitaker all-clear

EQUESTRIANISM

BY GENEVIEVE MURPHY at Harrogate

JOHN WHITAKER'S nine-vearold mount, Virtual Village Hey-man, had a restful day in the field on Monday after his return from Hickstead and, oo doubt refreshed, proceeded to win yesterday's opening contest of the Great Yorkshire Show.

Only three horses jumped clear initial rounds over Alan Oliver's testing course for the Great Yorkshire Championship, eaving Whitaker to jump-off against Geoff Billington and Robert Smith, two of his teammates from last year's European Championships.

Billington's 13-year-old Irishbred Shannonswave has plenty of scope hut a difficult temperament. "He wouldn't jump at all wheo I first had him about 15 months ago, He's very hot and you've got to get inside his head and try to understand him." Billington said.

The rapport was fine in the first round, but Shannonswave then reverted to his bad old ways, amassing a grand total of 25 jumping faults (four fences down and two refusals) and another four oo time. "I (lid it to let the Yorkshireman win." Billington quipped afterwards.

Although swift and clear oo Heyman, Whitaker knew that Smith could defeat him ou Senator Mighty Blue with whom he won the King George V Gold Cup at Hickstead on Sun day. The big grey was ahead oo time when tipping a rail off the penultimate fence, leaving Whitaker as victor.

Di Lampard was another of the top riders to compete in the spacious arena here, she arut Abbervail Dream finished in fourth place.

Yesterday's championship was, however, marred by a fatal injury to Golden Hind, the mount of Carl Curtis, who fell at a double of sloping poles. The horse broke a shoulder and had to be put down.

GREAT YORNSHIRE SHOW gata): Great Yorkshire Champi 1 Virtual Village Heyman (J Wintols 40,735ez 2 Senator Mightry Blee 4 faults, 40,24; 3 Virtual Village 5 swave [G Billington) 29 faults in p

Henman achieves new high

TENNIS

TIM HENMAN'S amhition of reaching the top 10 in the world rankings moved one step closer yesterday when he was oamed in 12th place in the latest ATP list.

It is Henman's highest-ever world ranking, following the 13th place he achieved after getting to the semi-finals at Wimhledon earlier this month.

is still ranked sixth in the world, but there is disquieting news of his ankle injury which he received during the Stella Artois tournament at Queen's Club.

Rusedski, who has not played since the first round at Wimbledon, is still receiving treatment. He was due to compete in Washingtoo next week and Los Angeles a week later, but has pulled out of hoth.

British No 1 Greg Rusedski Rusedski has been advised to take more time off for fear of further aggravating the injury.

Australia's Davis Cup captain, John Newcombe, yesterday criticised the International Tennis Federation over its decision to dispense with the advantage rule in Davis Cup and Fed Cup matches.

Newcomhe said the new rule, which decrees that once deuce is reached, the oext your opposeot down."

not have the support of players and coaches. "The oo-ad rule was tried in college tennis in the States and it made the tennis very mundane and not that much quicker," he said.

"It takes away one of the great things about the scoring system. If you can get into a long deuce game you have a situation where you can wear

SPORTING DIGEST

BASEBALL AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland 4 New York Yankees 1: Kansas City 6 Detroit 4 1/0 Inmings); Boston 2 Tampa Bay 0; Balcimore T-Toronro 0; Chicago White Sox 5 Minneso-ia 2, Oakland 5 Anahelm 2: Seattle 10 Texas

W L Per. GB -65 21 .756 --53 37 .589 14 -47 46 .505 21% -43 50 .462 25% -34 57 .374 33% 40 .560 41 .554 48 .473 53 .430 NATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida B Montreal 7 Pitisburgh 6 Chicago Cubs 2: Milwaukee 4 Philadelphia 2: Choinnan 6 Sr Louis 5 (13 in nings): Colorado 9 San Diego 5: Arizona 5 Houston 3: Los Angeles 7 San Francisco 5.

BASKETBALL

The Basketball League has signed its longest ever single sponsorship deal, and one of the richest, in a five-year, £1.2m agreement with Uni-ball, the rollerball pen company, to sponsor the League Trophy. Uni-ball sponsored the competition for the first time last year. first time last year.

Michael Payne, the England In-ternational has signed a new oneyear contract for the Budweiser League club Sheffield Sharks. Milton Keynes Lions have appoint-ed Andre Alleyne, the former Lon-don Towers assistant, as their new

CRICKET

An Australian pay dispute, which threatened to disrupt last season's international calendar, was set to erupt again yesterday after negotiations between the Australian Cricketers' Association and the Australian Codes Board over the Board over the Australian Codes Board over the Cricket Board over pay and condi-

tions for the country's first-class players broke down.

FOOTBALL

The Football League yesterday named Peter Middleton, the former Thomas Cook and Lloyd's of London chief executive, as their new independent chairman. Middleton. 5B. will join the League board in September before taking over from David Sheepshanks, the Ipswich chairman, when he steps down at chairman, when he steps down at the end of October.

The Nottingham Forest striker Kevin Campbell and midfielder Scot Gern-mil have agreed new contracts with the club.

Darren Ward, the Weish International goalkeeper, has signed a new three-year contract with the Third Oivision champions Notts County. champions worts county.

Darrer Patterson, the Northern Ireland defender, has joined Dundee United from Luton on a free transfer. Patterson, 28, has signed a three-year deal after turning down a new contract from the Hatters.

GOLF

Prize money for September's Linde German Masters in Cologne has been increased by £250,000 to £1m. makropean Tour this season to have a seven-figure prize fund. Next year's italian Open will be worth £700,000 – up £200,000 – following the announcement that Fiat and Fila are taking over the sponsorship, it will be played in Turin on 29 April-2 May.

OLYMPIC GAMES Paris is to consider a bid to stage the Olympic Games following the success of the World Cup.

RUGBY UNION Errol Brain, the New Zealand Maoris

captain, has signed to play in Japan for the Toyota Motor Corporation for the logous motion of the logous side in Nagoya from 1999. He joins an emigration wave of leading players, which includes the former All Blacks Frank Bunce and Eric Rush, littles and Frank Childs.

Blacks Frank Bunce and Eric Rush, heading to French clubs.

NEW ZEALAND TEAM (v South Africa, second "Bi-nadons Rest, 15 July, Meilington): C Culler: J Wilson. M Mayerhoffer. W Little, J Lomr. C Spencer, J Marshall: C Dowd. A Other, O Brown. I Jones, R Brooke, M Jones, J Kronfeld. T Randell (capt)

SPEEDWAY MONDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Else League Wolverhampton 62 Eastbourne 28. Pramier League: Exeter 66 Berwick 24; Reading 47 Arena Essex 25 (abandonéd after 12 heats, result stands).

SUMO

SUMO
GRAND TOURNARENT [Nagoya, Japan]
10th day [of 15]: Asanonsala (won 5; losi
5] bi Tokicsuum (junyo) [6-4]: Kinkahama
(5-5) to Tokicsuum (junyo) [6-4]: Kinkahama
(5-5) to Tokic (junyo) [6-4]: Nyohushuzan [6-4]
b) to Dewarashi [3-7]: Mancolul [6-4] bi Mitorsumi [5-5]: Tamakasuga [7-3] bi Kaino [4-6]: Nootonwaka [9-1] bi Asahnyutaa
[6-4]: Aogiyama [6-4] bi Mooryu [5-5]. Asanosto [6-4] bi Malamosto [6-4] bi Mooryu [5-5]. Eraac
(3-7) bi Garnyu (3-7). Tosanosmi [5-5]. Eraac
(3-7) bi Garnyu (3-7). Tosanosmi [5-5] bi Shinishima [4-6]. Musoyama [5-5] bi Ogmoshili (2-8): Taleardid [5-5] bi Goloro (0-70). Cnyosikai (7-3) bi Senitonashi [3-7]. Takanonami [6-2] bi Hamamoshima [3-7]. Shanonana (6-2) bi Chinowaka (0-10):
Wakanohama (3-2) bi Kao [3-7]. Desma [7-3] bi Akebono [6-2]

TENNIS

TENNIS nett [GBI 6-1 3-4 CHALLENGER TROPHY (Briskol) Men's-singles, semi-Raists 0 van Uffelen [Bei] bt P Wessels [Neth) 4-5 ret. A Ferreira [Bi] bt N Gould (GBI 7-6 6-3 Rhail: Van Uffelen bt Ferreira 6-3 6-2.

N Gould (GB) 7-6 6-3 Read: Van Ulfelen bt Ferreira 6-3 6-2.

SAPERIAY MEN'S CHALLENGER | Aptor., Calif.; Singles, first reviews: E Ran Isr; bt Mashiska Washington [US] 6-1 7-6. M Russell [US] bt J Bower (SA) 6-4 6-4, J-F Bachelot (Fr) bt Y Ishi (Japan) 6-4 6-7. J Cutbo (Aus) bt A O'Bnen [US] 6-4 3-6 6-4, L Burgamular (Ger) bt M Merkton (US) 6-0 6-4. L Burgamular (Ger) bt M Merkton (US) 6-0 6-4. L Burgamular (Ger) bt M Morkton (MS) 7-6 6-2

WARSASW CUP WOMEN'S TOURNA-MEN'S Singles, first round: B Paulos (Aur) bt E Makarova (Rus) 1-6 7-5 6-2: A Giass (Ger) bt O Barbonschikova (Beta) 2-6 7-5 6-3: M Petrova (Rus) 1-6 7-5 6-2: A Giass (Ger) 4-6 6-2 6-3; K Hrditkova (E-Rey) bt M Babel (Ger) 6-0 6-3; H Naggrova (Skotak) bt C Torrens-Valero (Sp) 6-3 6-0; E Mai tuncova (Cz Rep) bt M Antonia Sanchez-Lorenzo (Sp) 6-2 6-2; O Luglina (UK) bt O Chladkova (Cz Rep) 6-4 6-2. S Fanna (It) bt

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL FRIENDLY MATCHES (7.30 unless stated): Hitchin v Watront: Easter v Birmingham.
Part Vale v Hibernian for Heurosite Town FC)
Farsley Celoc v Bradford; Baldock v Barnet.
Chesham v Brentford, Peterborough v Tottenham (7.45): Guiseley v Scunihorpe.

RUGBY LEAGUE PIRST DIVISION (7.30): Featherstone v Wakefield, Hull Kingston Rovers v Develbury. Hursley v Whitehaven; Keighley v Rochdale, Wildnes v Swarton.

SPEEDWAY

ELITE LEAGUE: King's Lynn v Swindon [7,45]; Poole v Coventry (7,30) OTHER SPORTS

A Carlsson (Seve) 6-4-6-2, L Cervanova (Slovak) bt R Sandu (Rom) 6-0-6-3 A Smashnova (Bi) bt A Olsza (Rod 7-6-7-6, A laboudova (Slovak) bi V Ruano Pazcual (Sp) 0-6-6-3-6-2

PALERMO WOMEN'S GRAND PRINK (Sidellike III) 18 Page 18

Studentional (Sewart) or Adams in 6-1, 6-2, B Schett (Aud) by E. Gaghard (II) 6-0.6-3.

LTA WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL (Printon) Singles, first round: U An AGR) by G Nights, first round: U An AGR) by G Nights (6-36-1, 6-36-1, 6-36-1) by U Cachaller (16-1) by G Cachalle

TODAY'S NUMBER

57,537

The amount, in pounds, that an unknown Surrey gambler has yet to collect

after placing a Lo football accumulator bet on 4 July 1997. The farepart bet uses completed when France wom the World Cup.

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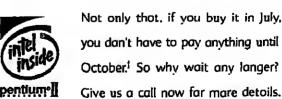
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Playing Ronaldo was 'absurd'

AND JEREMY LAURANCE

ARED carpet was rolled out and a trip to the presidential palace laid on, but it was not the homecoming that had been planned The traditional triumphant parade of Brazilian sporting heroes riding on a fire engine was not required; a coach sufwhen they trooped off their only hope that Ronaldo has the has had a fit should be rested.

However, any criticism centred not on tactics or player performances but on the decision to ask Ronaldo to play in the final hours after he had suffered a fit. That attitude was shared by

ternazionale. He accused the Brazilian federation of behaving "in an absurd manner". "Its actions could have had much more

There was sympathy for that view from the British medical profession. Dr Alfred Medagoda, of the David Lewis Centre for Epilepsy in Cheshire, said that exposing the player to fur-Massimo Moratti, the owner of ther risk of injury by making for Brazil's World Cup team. Ronaldo's Italian club In- him play in the final was potentially dangerous. "He would be likely to have felt dazed and confused for some time, depending on whether it was a ficed for the beaten finalists serious consequences. Now I major or minor fit. Anyone who

plane in Brasilia after the long chance to rest, because he was It can add to the original injury exacerbated by a build-up in which had been placed on Ronal others, like Michael Owen, Engto continue playing," he said.

> clinical neurology at Birmingham University, said that if Ronaldo had suffered a mild head of psychology at the Uniseizure, he found it difficult to versity of Manchester Instibelieve that the medical advice tute of Science and Technology, would have been for him to play. believes the Brazilian's predica-

caused Ronaldo to have the fit. Dr Medagoda suggested that blows to the head that any footballer will suffer shake the brain and could trigger a seizure. An alternative view was that stress,

nervous tension ahead of such do's shoulders by the media, the an important match, could have generated the problem.

Professor Cary Cooper, the It is not yet clear what ment was symptomatic of the pressure felt by the world's

> "You can have a mild fit if you are put under enormous pressure and stress," he said. "Just

fans, commercial demands. If you put these kinds of pressure

A person's own view can be different. Ronaldo once said: "You can cope with all the difficulties that life presents when you are young."

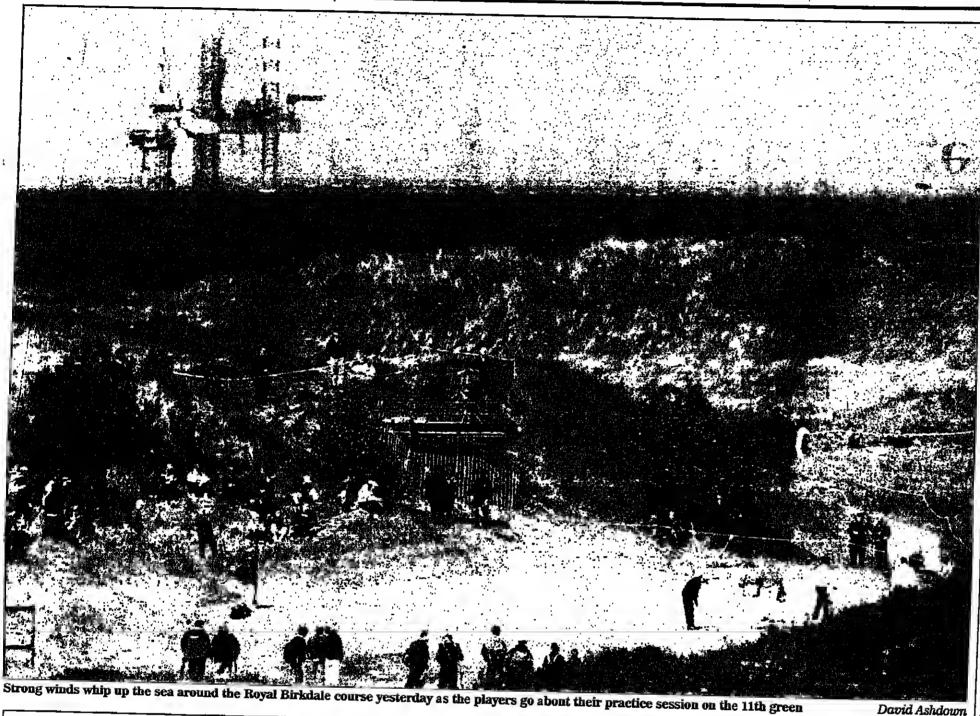
That attitude may be essential in a player who aims to make it to the top. But perhaps Ronaldo's problems on Sunday

land's 18-year-old striker, who is due to come face to face with the Brazilian when Liverpool on young and talented players it play Inter in a pre-season match on 4 August.

Fifa, world football's governing body, made rule changes to protect the quick, skilful, entertaining players like Ronaldo and Owen from phys-Keith Cooper, their communications director, said it was up to national teams to look after

ical problem. "But," he said, "I think if you go and play in the World Cup, you must expect to exome under a certain amount of stress." He said that although it was not clear what had happened to Ronaldo, "the fact remains that France won 3-0. Ronaldo played and he

looked fit on the field." ical damage at France 98, but England and France shared the Fifa Fair Play Award for the World Cup finals and each will receive £16m-worth of equip-



THE WEDNESDAY CROSSWORD No. 3663. Wednesday 15 July

ACROSS Watch works in case pest menace is out of

Trunk upright at bow of 26 10 Right oven to cook joint 27

11 Lot can run freely by night (9)
12 Cause to worry swallow 29

13 Epitaph beside cathedral town (5) 14 Relaxed for smooth departure? (4-5) Painted Lady? (5,9)

18 Workers come out in them as lynx, say, at-tacks (7,7) 22 That can be repositioned in theatre (9)

Colour Print, St Albans Road, Watford

Many fancy split seg-ment of bulb (5) Inflamed in French hed

Polish piece of opaline Plonker, I do it the wrong way (5) "Celebrities" put years On one (9)

DOWN A murder's planned, we 19 Coriolanus opening in-clinded to be inhibited

Clear linctus, for example, available without prescription (6.8)

Matzo menu — unusual for an Aztec emperor

Chips in jugs (5) Alice's illustrator, lenient sort (7) Disparage male dress in the army (6) Common break from

school? (6,8) Garish flat (9) A distress signal about hardest incombustible material (9) Baby glued in position?

Monarch very soon swallowed fly (7) Greek caracatures of wine-producers (6) Young fellows heard in a

state capital (5)

hle. If he is driving well, my advice to him would be to go for it. Why not?" But Woods, whose course are, Canary Wharf, London E14 SDL, and printed at Mirror management has been criticised in major championships

O'Meara said.

BY ANDY FARRELL

TIGER WOODS will not be at-

tacking the 127th Open with all

barrels blazing, despite giving

a remarkable demonstration

of how he can harness the ele-

ments to overpower the tough-

est of golf courses. In his first

practice round on Monday.

Woods almost drove the green

Obviously the hole was play-

ing downwind - with gusts up

to 45mph - and, turning in the

opposite direction to play the

seventh hole, the powerful

Woods could hit his three-iron

no more than 152 yards. "Tiger

hits his nine-iron that distance

in normal conditions," Mark

O'Meara, his practice partner,

said. "They said it was a two-

club wind, but that was a little

At the eighth, which doglegs

slightly to the left, the 22-year-

old Woods took aim over the

sand dunes and came up eight

vards short of the green. "It was

the biggest shot Fve ever seen

- and it didn't hit a cart path."

Tiger's game are his driving

and his ability to get out of trou-

"The strongest parts of

more than a two-club wind."

at the 457-yard eighth hole.

at Royal Birkdale

year, is unlikely to stick to the policy once he has a scorecard in hand tomorrow. "It was just something for a bit of fun just to see how far I could bit it," he admitted

Woods warming

to the challenge

Woods averaged 294 yards on the US PGA Tour last year eight yards short of John Daly, who became the first man to average over 300 in a year. Two years before winning the 1995 Open at St Andrews, Daly recorded another huge hit in practice at Sandwich when he drove the green at the 405vard fifth hole, cutting the cor-

ner at the dogleg left. Nick Faldo will not be featuring in any long-driving records this week - he was outdriven by 62-year-old Gary Player at the first hole - but the three-times champion was encouraged by his first full practice round after injuring his elbow last week at Loch Lomond.

"I'm pleased and surprised," Faldo said. "I am about 80 per cent fit. The elbow was a little achy this morning but 1 didn't feel it over the last six holes, despite hitting a couple of proper divots. It must have clunked back into place or maybe it was warmed up by signing 200 au-

tographs before the round." Faldo teed up his ball on the fairway at the second hole. "That's against the rules," someone shouted. "I've got a medical note," Faldo replied, "I'm allowed."

He then knocked his ball since winning the Masters last into the semi-rough to play from a cushioned lie and continued the policy for most of the round. Whether his elbow, on which he has had intensive physiotherapy and ultra-sound treatment for the last week, can stand up to playing out of the thicker rough went untested. "I haven't been in the thick stuff," be said. "I'm saving that for tomorrow

Faldo will play with O'Meara in the first two rounds. Defending champion Justin Leonard has been paired with fellow American David Duval and Dane Thomas Bjorn, while Ernie Els and Tom Lehman were drawn together. But it was a largely uninspiring draw and one that leaves Lee Westwood playing with Brad Faxon and Namibia's Trevor Dodds.

Scot Hoch, the American who has often missed the Open and once criticised St Andrews as only fit for sheep, plays with Steve Elkington and Patrik Sjoland. Hoch, who missed a two-footer when he only needed to putt it to beat Faldo in the 1989 Masters, now has a clause in a sponsor's contract saying he has to play in all the majors.

But he is here under sufferance. "The tradition of the tournament doesn't mean anything to me compared to the States." Hoch said. "This is just not my type of weather, I'm a hot weather player and I don't like the cold. If I had not been contracted to he here, I don't know whether I would have been

here or not" Taming the Tiger, page 24

Beckham is cause for concern

BY MARK PIERSON

DAVID BECKHAM reported for pre-season training with Manchester United yesterday amid growing concern over how supporters will treat him in the coming months.

Beckham's father, Ted, was reported yesterday to have voiced fears over how his son might react to continuing criticism of his role in England's World Cup second round game against Argentina, Beckham was sent off in the game, which England lost on penalties.

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, has already called for extra security when his team travel to West Ham for their first away Premiership match of the season on 22 August.

West Ham supporters are planning to taint Beckham with 10,000 red cards, while an effigy of him has been strung up outside a London pub. A banner reading "Beckham: August 22 = hell" was found pinned to the main gates of Upton Park last week.

The Professional Footballers' Association said yesterday that it would be "extremely spiteful" if Beckham were hounded out of Britain hy critcical supporters. Brendan Batson, the PFA's deputy chief executive, also said that Beck-David Ashdown ham's departure would be a month.

huge loss to the domestic

because of other people's reactions, a player would feel he said. "Most right-minded supporters and football lovers do not want to see a player as talented as him go_

"We want to see our best players here rather than watch them on television playing somewhere else. It would be an extremely spiteful campaign to do that against a player like Beckham."

Manchester United are trying to defuse the situation and are keen to play down the affair. But it is clear that Ferguson faces his biggest man-management test since he persuaded Eric Cantona not to turn his back on football after

his ban in 1995. Ferguson is becoming irritated by the continued furore and he told ChibCall: "We want to get David out training, get back to the football and forget gype and no which has been said."

Ferguson has said all along that he would ease his players from the World Cup back into action and it is expected Beckham will make his reappearance during United's. three-game Scandinavian tour, which starts at the end of this

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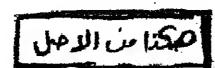
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WEDNESDAYREVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS •

here is a film currently on release called Stiff Upper Lips, a satire on both the class system and the British film establishment. Its opening scene is a running race in a Cambridge quadrangle, wrecked when a "toff" wanders in front of one of the runners, who trips over him.

The young director Gary Sinyor is clearly parodying David Puttnam's Oscar-winning Chariots of Fire. The new film is undoubtedly infantile in its humour. Yet it appears that Puttnam was privately burt by the unsubtle mickey-take, not least because the award-winning young director had once written to him telling bim he was his bero, and thanking him for starting him off

Beckhami ! in the film industry. David Puttnam is justly a hero to many, in the film industry and beyond. Yet be can be the target of both criticism and envy, and sometimes in extremely high places.

The film stars Dustin Hoffman (whom Puttnam called "a worrisome American pest"1, Warren Beatty, Bill Cosby and Bill Murray all turn

BY DAVID LISTER

puce at the mention of the man who has become the Labour Government's most influential, and visible, cultural adviser. He crossed them all when he briefly ran a Hollywood studio.

The resentment has now taken root closer to home, and is potentially far more serious in its consequences. Lord Puttnam's long-cherished desire to be vice-chairman of the BBC has been thwarted, probably in favour of a fellow Blairite, Gail Rebuck, chief executive of Random House Publishing. Puttnam, ennobled by Blair, would have been a visionary figure at the corporation and was thought to have been the choice of the Culture Secretary Chris Smith, who has quickly given him the consolation prize of heading Nesta, the Government's scheme to invest more in science and the arts.

It seems that Puttnam burnt his boats with the BBC two years ago. At a Royal Television Society conference he roundly castigated the BBC for sacrificing investment in training and new talent because of its obsession with gearing up for the digital age. He was not to be

"I don't think there's been any dishonesty." he said this week, "But it's been unutterably chunsy and insensitive. The BBC has been manipulative and rather underhanded. I have no time for the smoke-and-mirrors way of dealing with people. The BBC had every opportunity of telling me I wasn't suitable, but instead they in-- sulted me by pretending that they were considering me.

It is their loss, and probably Britain's too. In Puttnam, they would have have had on board = ucation, training, the development of young tal-... ent, the fight for the British film industry against the domination of Hollywood - would have won the BBC much-needed respect; a com-... modity in short supply following years of hack-... ing away at its own production and talent base.

And, as he said, they would have had someone who has no time for the smoke-and-mirrors way of dealing with people. If Puttnam's impolitic condemnation of Birtian policy cost him the job at the BBC, it is typical of the man. He never shirks from voicing his beliefs for the sake of personal or political considerations.

Though he is often caricatured as a Blairite luvvy, Britain's best-known film producer is curiously unhuvvyish in his passions. If you sit down

botel at the Cannes remarks about Hollywood stars, but will become gelical about the need to train young people in the British film industry; and how to pay for for that training (by compelling film distributors and video shops to pay a levy).

He is passionate about Britain and about raising standards, be it in schools and in the film business – he is on government committees set up to do both. Puttnam himself left school at 16 to join an advertising company before moving into film production. In the Eighties, he was the British film industry, more or less. And the films sion and Local Hero - reflected the man: they were populist, intelligent, uplifting, charming but sincere. For a later film, Memphis Belle, be arsucu long but unsuccessfully with the American studio for the crew of the eponymous bomber to be British. Here is another, absolutely essential, key to understanding Puttnam

His friend, the actress Sarah Miles, has said:
"The point about Puttnam is, if suddenly someone said to him, 'Look, English tennis is really down the nick: train this year and enter Wimbledon next year, you've got a good chance of getting into the finals', he would. You see, he really cares enough about England to do anything for it. Something impossible – he'd try to do it for

The tennis metaphor was well chosen. As a teenager Puttnam competed at junior Wimbleion, but never picked up a racket again after he realised he wasn't going to be good enough to compete at the very highest level. Now that he s retiring from producing films, he wants still to do something for England, and still at the very nighest level.

His long-time associate Hugh Hudson, diector of Chariots of Fire, once said of him: "He wishes he could direct films. The memory of his ather drives him forward. He considers his ather [a Fleet Street photographer whom he ionised] was an artist and wishes he could be one. But he likes power and control..."

However, that really was to miss the point. The great thing about Puttnam is that he utilises his lower and control for ends that are both ideal-



So what's David Puttnam everdone to you?

This week the nation's favourite film producer failed to become Vice-Chairman of the BBC and had to settle for second best. And this despite appearing eminently qualified for the job and benefiting from heavy support. Whose nose did he put out of joint? And how?

youth training, nor the issues surrounding intellectual copyright, is likely to generate parties at the Fashion Cafe.

Nor are the issues be raises with Government exactly showbizzy. He wanted a levy on video rentals and films transmitted by electronic means. Ten pence on every rental, he says, could be invested in training programmes, while a second levy would be ploughed back into domestic productions. That way, the British industry could train film-makers to make more British films and compete in the global market.

That was too much like socialism for this Government, which has compromised with proposals for a trial "voluntary" levy. Puttnam sees the world hurtling towards an

information and education age, and worries that Hollywood will carve up this embryonic industry, much as it did with films.

If we move fast, we could become the Hollywood of education," be says. "With our national curriculum, plus the skills of bodies such as the BBC, the Open University and the British

Council, Britain could be the place where edu-

cational software is developed, finessed and marketed in a way that has never been possible in any other sector." At the rool of it all is an obsession that has governed Puttnam for a decade or more - the fact that the film industry began in Europe but is dominated by a Hollywood whose aesthetic values he abhors. Education, training and the proper funding of Britain's young talent is one way to begin to redress the balance. The more com-

the world is another. These should not be contentious views. Perhaps where Puttnam puts people's backs up is in his refusal to compromise on his crusading zeal, and his occasional failure to concern himself with the effects on others of his principled stands. This was most apparent in his unhappy, if lucrative, time heading Columbia

plex area of producing educational software for

Studios in Hollywood in the mid-Eighties. David Thomson, author of A Biographical Dictionary of Film, summarises it with faint praise: "His strengths were English and Puttnam was cheerfully disapproving of many things Ameri-

istic and patriotic, and not in fact caught in the can. At Columbia he handled himself like an out- do not want an outsider coming in. Over the years trendy limelight of Cool Britannia. Neither sider. He announced lower budgets, lower he has been passionate about what the BBC salaries, braver pictures, and a lot of opportun-

ities for European directors. "Did he ever plan on staying long" Or did he prefer to be a gambler, and a challenge? Was it too laborious, or too American, to apply his several worthwhile ideas slowly, with cunning duplicity, and all the other American methods? He lasted less than two years and it's arguable that his rhetoric and his provocation did more damage than good. It's unlikely that anyone else will ever get such a chance again."

The experience left Puttnam with encephalomyocarditis. a viral disease affecting the skeletal and nervous systems, which recurs four or five times a year and, says Puttnam, has "sort

One of Puttnam's closest allies, both in his Hollywood experience and in a friendship lasting 35 years, is the film director Alan Parker, chairman of the British Film Institute and director of Midnight Express, among other films produced by Puttnam.

What he has to say about Puttnam and the BBC is revealing. "The best analogy is the Columbia example. David was determined to bring in a different ethos and back the creatives. but the Hollywood system is all about making money. David put creativity above everything else. I remember him making a speech to the entire board of Coca-Cola, which owned Columbia then. He told them that profit should not be the reason for being in the film industry. They stared at him in disbelief.

"He is very purist about the BBC. And I believe that, as with Columbia, the powers that be, Bland Birt and, from what I read, Mandelson, BBC wishes to harness il or not.

"David is clever and smart and, despite his government jobs, is not an establishment figure and never has been. So they get a bit scared of

Puttnam once told his biographer, Andrew Yule: "Something I find hard to deal with, because I don't have any, is envy. I find it an extraordinarily difficult emotion to comprehend. I come up against it a lot ... When people are envious of me and react oegatively, what are they envious of? The fact that I've made successful movies? Enough successful movies to have been able to afford and to have the life I've had? Several friends of mine have a problem with how happy my marriage is. They think it's unjust: they think it's wrong: that I don't deserve this charmed life."

This week, life was a little less charmed, and Lord Puttnam suffered one of his biggest disappointments. But the real and depressing significance of the BBC's rejection of him is that the corporation and its allies in Government remain wary of a patriotic crusader with a mission to raise standards, who will not hesitate to speak his thoughts in public.

In his movies Puttnam, an expert on both modern and classical music. paid particular attention to the scores, as the wildly successful Vangelis score to Chariots of Fire showed. But one of his favourite pieces of music comes from the first film he ever saw, at the age of seven. It is "When You Wish Upon a Star" from Pinocchio. At the age of 57, that idealism is undimmed, and an asset to Britain's cultural future, whether the

Nick Hancock – an apology

An article entitled 'Forever In-ger-land' by Suzanne Moore (16 June) said that the yob culture of the football terraces has been promoted by those who should know better. Unfortunately, we wrongly attributed to Nick Hancock, the prominent TV presenter, the suggestion that had been made on Fantasy World Cup Live the previous night that viewers should headbutt a TV licence detector if they came to the house during a World Cup game. This was incorrect. We accept that Mr Hancock never made this statement, and that he does not promote or condone violence and has never done sn. We apologise to Mr Hancock for the distress and embarrassment caused by this error.

Adopt a Cub

Guler was found wandering the streets of Istanbul. Hunters

and help WSPA save bears from cruelty.

probably shot her mother so Guler could be taught to

'dance' for tourists. With her brother Erol, she's now safe at WSPA's bear sanctuary. You can help keep these cubs safe by adopting them as a gift. For £15 we'll send an adoption certificate, two photos of the cubs and their story. For £25 you'll get all these. plus a video of the cubs playing. Please help WSPA protect bears worldwide.

I want to adopt Erol and Guler

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I want to adopt Erol and Guler for £15 (for an adoption certificate, 2 photos and the cubs' story)

225 (for all the above plus a video of the cubs) (Please make your cheque payable to WSPA or fill in your credit card

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Leaders and comment 3-5 Obituaries

10-11 Arts 12-13 Fashion Money Finance

Secretarial Radio 14-15 Satellite TV Today's TV

Minister

after an

attack on

his staff

Chief Political Correspondent

NIGEL GRIFFITHS, the Con-

sumer Affairs Minister, last night looked destined for the

sack in Tony Blair's reshuffle after claiming that his own

permanent secretary was "sab-

The junior trade minister

had already been tipped for demotion for his failure to impress Downing Street in his handling

of the brief, but his criticism of his own senior civil servant

seemed to have sealed his fate. Stung by claims that civil ser-

vants had marked him down in

an end-of-term report, Mr Grif-

fiths told the Edinburgh Evening News that Michael Scholar,

the DTI Permanent Secretary. had been forced to apologise. "I have had to warn the Permanent Secretary about sabo-

taging some of my work, which

I did in writing and for which I

have received a writteo apolo-

like me coming in at 7am when

the department doesn't opeo till

8am and the Permanent Sec-

retary doesn't come in until 9am. But I've been doing that from day one and I'm one of the few ministers who has a key to

The people at the top don't

gy," he said.

BY COLIN BROWN

otaging" his work.

faces sack



INDEX

HOME NEWS

BBC newsreaders in uproar

The BBC's leading newsreaders are in uproar because the corporation is refusing to renew their contracts before planned changes to its news programmes.

New PR self for the Dome

Some of Labour's favourite PR men have been drafted in to help sell the Millennium Dome as part of a £29m mar-Page 5

FOREIGN NEWS PAGES 12 - 15

UN delegation arrives in Algeria

A high-level United Nations delegation arrived in Algeria last night for a two-week mission that offers the out-side world its best hope yet of learning the truth about the savageries and human rights abuses committed in a six-year civil war, which has taken at least 65,000 lives.

Asian ministers face up to crisis Asian foreign ministers meet in the Philippines this week in an atmosphere of economic crisis, political uncertainty

and growing recrimination toward Japan. Foreign ministers from the nine countries of Asean (Association of South-East Asian Nations), including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, will begin formal deliberations on Friday after the region's most difficult year since the Second World War

SPORTS NEWS

Everton chase after Dacort

Everton are toping to sign the French midfielder Olivier Dacort in a £3m transfer from Strasbourg, while Crystal Palace are willing to pay £2.5m for two Argentinians
- Christian Ledesma and Pablo Rodriguez,

Gymnast paralysed at Games A 17-year-old Chinese gymnast was paralysed from the

event on the third day of the Goodwill Cames in New York. Sang Lan, China's champlon women's vaulter, broke two vertebrae in her back.

oeck down after falling during the warm-up for the vault

Page 25

THURSDAY REVIEW

David Aaronovitch "How can we now argue against the outing of senior

members of the Church of England, oo the basis that their sexuality is their own business? No, hy God, let's Page 3

Hamish McRae

"It can be very hard when you are in the middle of a revolution to realise quite what is happening, but we are. I think, in the middle of one now, one that occurs only every couple of hundred years.'

Bidisha

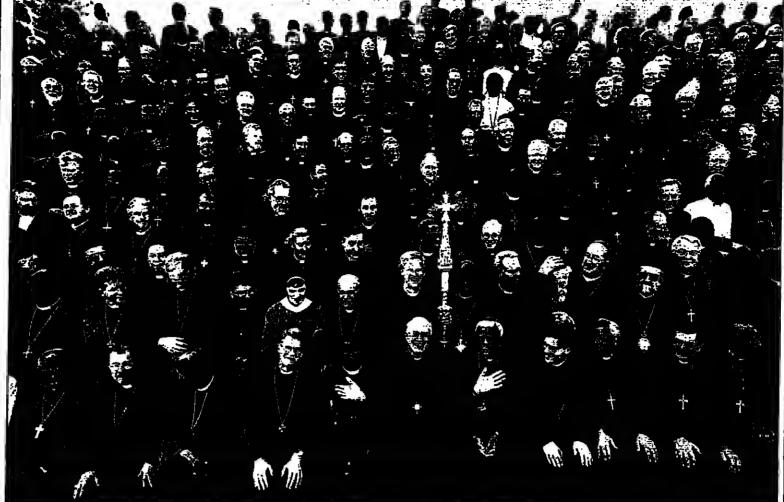
*Willing gentlemen are delivered to the girl's door for her delectation or rejection. She might meet someooe she likes, or she might change her mind about the whole thing. It is no different from, and a lot safer than, placing a lonely hearts ad in Time Out."

Andrew Marshall

"The American economy is motoring along as well as it has done since the Sixties, and people just aren't that bothered by the things that the politicians would like to them to care about. Like politics. Things seem fine; why vote? This "What, me, worry?" attitude has put the President at the top of the opinion polls, and probably will keep him there."

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Cryptic crossword, section one, page 28



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Carey, opens his arms in welcome to the 739 Anglican bishops at the Lambeth Conference David Rose

Bishops cancel gay event

A PRESENTATION by a group of BY CLARE GARNER ordained lesbian, gay and bisexual Christians to the Lambeth Conference of Bishops, scheduled for today, has been cancelled at the last minute in the face of fierce opposition

from senior clergy.

The decision to repress the presentation was taken at a section meeting on Tuesday night which took place behind closed doors. One bishop asked why, if they were discussing homo-

at the Lambeth Conference

sexuality, they were not discussing bestiality and child abuse, too.

The Bishop of Johanneshurg, the Rt Rev Duncan Buchanan, who had arranged the presentation, was said to be "shell shocked" by the extreme

Changing Attitudes, the organisation invited to do the presentation, said yesterday: The meeting last night was so traumatic that it was decided by Duncan Buchanan that the

presentation wouldn't work. "He was deeply emotionally affected by the strength and ferocity of feelings and the dynamic of the group,"

The presentation was to

whom were going to speak of to talk to gays. One African bishtheir personal experiences. Afterwards there was going to be up to 45 minutes of questioning. However, Bishops at the sec-

tion meeting voted two-thirds in favour of cancelling today's The Rt Rev John Spong, the

ultra-liberal Bishop of Newark, New Jersey, said it was a dis-

op said Why don't we discuss bestiality and child abuse if we're going to discuss homo-

"They impugned the in tegrity of Duncan Buchanan." said that if there were to be tiomosexuals speaking we should

his department. "Tve said there is no need for other people to come in at that time, but the one thing that gives them an ulcer more than coming in early is wondering

what I get up to when I'm in be-A Conservative American fore them. Mr Griffiths, a close ally of bishop said: "Several bishops Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, was said to have been sumreaction.

The presentation was to couraging meeting. Sixty hist-also have people who live a openly gay priest who runs

The presentation was to couraging meeting. Sixty hist-also have people who live a openly gay priest who runs and lesbian Christians, seven of down and they don't even want healed of homosexuality." also have people who live a celi-bate lifestyle, or have been moned by Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade, and warned that she would have to support her civil

by the Opposition. Lockerbie trial may start next week John Redwood, the Tory

spokesman on trade and industry last night called oo Mrs Beckett to disown her minister's remarks. Mr Griffiths looked short of support last night from Down-

servant if the matter was raised

ing Street, which dismissed any allegations involving Mr Scholar The Prime Minister's office did not go out of its way to defend Mr Criffiths, limiting denials to the allegations that the Permanent Secretary had

details of a deal. Although they stressed that there was still

BY FRAN ABRAMS

hand over two Lockerbie bombing suspects for trial in The Hague as early as next week Foreign Office sources said As, Downing Street con-

firmed that Tony Blair had had talks with President Bill Clinton about the idea, it emerged

Noon today

THE LIBYANS could be asked to **Political Correspondent**

some way to go, the negotia-. tions between the UK, the US and Holland could hreak a deadlock over the issue. At Prime Minister's Ques-

BRITAIN TODAY

् 13

was complex and added: "We've be tried in Scotland or the US. got to make sure that any so-Libya has argued that the men lution we come up with is fully would not get a fair trial. consistent with our absolute commitment to the integrity of the Scottish judicial system."

05.14 05.22 05.07 05.12 05.11 05.01

Britain and the US have maintained that two Libyans charged with the Pan Am bombing in December 1988

LIGHTING UP TIMES

21.14 21.12 21.41 21.02

HIGH TIDES

AM HT
London 02:18 6.8
Liverpool 11:56 9.1
Avonmouth 07:53 12.7
Hull Maer Dodg 06:53 8.4

Dun Laoghaire 12:18 4.0 00:39

AIR QUALITY

SUN & MOON

05.11 21.02 05.08 20 47 Today

WEATHERLINE

The latest suggestion, put by the Foreign Secretary Robin Cook to the American Secretary

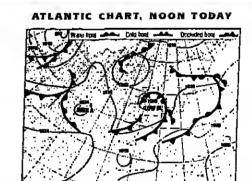
YESTERDAY

BRITISH ISLES WEATHER

pressure to bring the case to court because of several factors. trade being one, but if nothing happens before the Scottish Parliament is set up in the year of State Madeleine Albright at 2,000, its members may pass a Christmas, would see the men Bill allowing the case to be tried in The Hague under Scot- tried in The Hague, which tish law by five judges, one of would put them into conflict

The Government is under

THE WORLD



Low M will move gradually north-east. High A will move east and

				Julia.			
!		THE W	ORLD	YESTI	RDAY		
Akrosin	S 32 90	Orleage	F 84 93	Lima	(18 64	Perth	ř 14 5
Alexandria	25 84	Christchurch	R 18 64	Lisbon	28 82	Port Stanley	F 8 3
Algiers	5 29 84	Cologne	5 23 73	Locarno	V 28 62	Prague	6 22 T
Alicante	F 28 02	Copenhagen	5 22 72	Los Angeles		Registanti	f 13 5
Ansterdam	F 20 68	Corfs	S 34 93	Luxembourg	F 22 72	Rhodes	5 28 8
Ancharage	C 16 61	Oakar	C 29 84	Madrid	5 31 68	Rio de Jan	4 24 7
Arhens	S 35 95	Darwon	F 31 86	Majorca	5 26 82	Kiyadh	F 4010
Applicand	C 16 61	Dhahran	5 39102	Malaga	5 27 B1	Rome	5 30 86
Batrain	\$ 39102	Faro	5 29 84	Maka	5 31 98	Salaburg	C 25 77
Bangkok	I 35 95	Florence	5 33 81	Marila	1 33 91	San Fran	F 18 64
Barbados	F 29 84	Franklure	C 25 77	Mecca	5 39102	Sanitago	M 8 46
Barcelona	\$ 29 64	Funchal	F 75 77	Melbourne	C 12 54	Scoul	C 28 02
Belrut	C 28 82	Geneva	5 27 61	Mesico City	C 24 75	Singapore	C 31 88
Belgrade	5 33 91	Gibraltar	5 27 61	Mami	îh 32 90	Stockholm	R 16 64
Berlin	F 25 77	Harare	5 27 61	Milan	5 33 91	Strasbourg	C 25 77
Serrouda	(30 86	Helstrid	C 23 73	Mombasa	5 29 64	Sydney	16 61
Bearriez	5 27 61	Hong Kone	F 33 B1	Montreal	I 27 81	Lage	34 83
Bogota	L 18 64	Honolulu	1 30 86	Moscow	F 24 75	Tel Auty	F 31 88
Bonsbay	F 32 90		ri Co	Munich	C 23 73	Tenente	5 27 81
Bordeaux	S 27 81	istantuui	S 31 88	Namobi	C 24 75	Tokyo	C 24 75
Brisbane	1 16 61		C 31 86	Naples	5 32 90	Toronto	(29 84
Brussels	1 22 72	Jeddah	F 30 97	Nassau	C 28 02	Tunis	5 31 88
Bucharest	5 32 90	lerusalem	5 30 86	New DePri	\$ 35 95	Valencia	C 30 86
Budapest	\$ 33 91	TO DUTE	F 18 66		D 28 84	Vancounter	22 72
Boenos Aires			C 97 90	New York	C 33 91	Ventoe	29 84
Čimo	\$ 30 90	Kartımandu S	a 25 77	Nice	ĭ 27 8i	Vienna	30 86
Californy	C 18 64		S 26 79	Nicosla	5 32 90	Warson	F 32 90
Cape Town	\$ 14 57		C 29 84	Osio	F 20 68	Washington	34 93
Caracas	F 29 84	Nusia Lumpur		Paris	F 24 75	Welfington	3: 15 59
Carablanca	5 24 75	Las Patenas	\$ 25 77	Peking	F 28 82	Zurich	F 24 75

"A GRISHAM THRILLER HAS RARELY BEEN THIS SEXY OR THIS MUCH FUN." "INTENSE, POWERFUL, DARK AND DANGEROUS."



A ROBERT ALTMAN FILM

ODEON

OUTLOOK

Eastern Scotland and north-east England will have some rain this morning, but it

will become brighter this afternoon. Western Scotland and Northern Ireland will have surmy breaks and a scattering of showers. Walks and north-west England will have a showery morning, but it will become drier and brighter for the afternoon. South-east England and East Angila will have some sunshine at first. However,

NEXT FEW DAYS England and Wales will be largely dry tomorrow with some sunshine at times. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be breezy with frequent showers and longer spells of rain in the far north of Scotland. There will be warm sunshine for most parts on Saturday but cloud and rain will move into the west rowards evening.

The dry, warm weather may hold on in the south-east on Sunday, but here else will be cloudy with outbreaks of rain

BRANAGH

HERBR.

ODEON

DAVIDTZ

DOWNEY IR.

Artraces
Apentich
Is as of Sc'y
Jersey
Liverpool
Loudon

AIR QUALITY

HANNAH

BERENGER AND DUVALL

BASED ON AN ORIGINAL STORY BY JOHN GRISHAM

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Money is welcome, but what about the teachers and nurses?

YESTERDAY WAS a defining moment for Tony Blair's New Labour Government, the day when it finally broke its umbilical link with Thatcherism. After more than two decades of rolling back the state, there was a declaration of support for the public sector. And given its decrepit state, and the dreadful morale among many of its employees, it is welcome to hear such a positive tone being taken - although it hardly required a crystal ball to see that the Government would make prioribes of spending oo health and education. It had, after all, spent two years and an election campaign saving precisely that.

Calling this a Comprehensive Spending Review, however, is a misnomer. The CSR has been valuable, but it is about reordering priorities within existing spending parameters. Spending an extra £21bn on the NHS is all very welcome. But there is a danger of blundering into an ever growing state and undoing much of the good work of the Eighties - ironically, at a time when most of Europe is following Britain's lead. The Chancellor bas tried to square the public spending circle by managing, all at the same time, to increase public spending, keep taxes down, maintain both the image and reality of fiscal prudence and (in line with his unfulfilled political ambition) remain recognisably "socialist" in his actions.

So after 14 months, we now know how the Government wishes to be seen. And it is clear that New Labour is certainly not Conservatism in different clothes. If this illusive Third Way can ever be defined, the Government came closest yesterday. For the Conservatives, the state was something to be sold off - or Ignored. Gordon Brown showed that New Labour believes in the power of the state to do good, which is why be is putting more money into the priority areas. That, though, poses another question. Up to vesterday, every one of the Government's vaunted speoding initiatives has been a mirage - no extra money, but a reallocation of existing resources. Although vesterday's plans do indeed reveal significant extra spending, the caveats accompanying some of the announcements - that they are dependent upon efficiency gains, for instance - mean that the figures should not be taken at face value. Nonetheless, there are some real increases in spending.

And therein lies the worry. As the baseball player Yogi Berra once said, "this is dejà vu all over again". How often before have we heard spurious claims that spending is to be financed out of growth? By tying the public finances to a three-year plan he is banking on today's



economic prosperity lasting at least another 36 months, Many sober judges argue that this is at best unlikely, If recession takes hold - even if there is a soft landing there will be a double-whammy of increased unemployment pay and decreased tax revenue. The extra public spending will need to be paid for, and, with borrowing ruled out, that can only mean putting up taxes.

Given the resistance to increased taxation, this could undermine Labour's chances of a second term. There is one other familiar flaw in this review. The simplistic notion that capital spending is good, current spending bad, bas been wheeled out for another airing. But we can have all the shining schools and hospitals in the

world; without teachers and doctors and nurses they are useless. There is a fine line to be drawn between a proper check on public sector pay and a sensible reward to state employees. The shortage of decent teachers and the dearth of applicants for nursing shows the truth of the adage that if you pay peanuts you get monkeys. Somehow we need to make such jobs attractive for people of the highest calibre, and revive the lure of working in the public sector. The Chancellor's strictures will only hinder this.

The Government has had a year in which it could claim to be finding its feet, Yesterday it started to walk. The direction it is taking is now a little clearer, but not much.

Don't ignore Hague and his Tory party

IT IS easy to jeer. Focus groups worked for a seemingly unelectable Labour Party, so it is little wonder that a debilitated and hated Conservative Party bas turned to them as well. Back in the Eighties, when Neil Kinnock still had all his hair, the then opposition came up with "Labour Listens". As it turned out, the only people it ended up listening to were the very Labour Party members whose distance from normality caused the party's decline in the first place. When the Tories start "Listening to Britain" they need to be sure that it is indeed Britain who is speaking, rather than the strange minority who are willing to give up an evening to speak to a Conservative Party official.

So William Hague's task is not to win in 2002, but to put the party in a position to win in 2007. And be has made a solid start. He has transformed the party's coostitution, begun to reform Ceotral Office and quietly ditched some its more unpopular policies. By setting up a commission on reforming the House of Lords, the Leader of the Opposition has sbown a readiness to adopt the traditional Conservative response to coostitutional reform; outflanking the proponents. Although his public profile is somewhere between nonexistent and derisory, Mr Hague has woo plaudits from business people and party workers and regularly bests the Prime Minister in the Commoos. Last week he made him look shifty, incompetent and ill at ease - a pretty impressive performance. The Government's contempt for the Commons has led many commentators to write off Parliament as well, but they are too hasty. If he carries on shining in the Commons, Mr Hague will not only undermine the Prime Minister, be will also - almost more important - give his demoralised party some confidence,

The new Shadow Cabinet looks promising. Francis Maude has both teeth and brains, while his lacklustre predecessor as shadow Chancellor, Peter Lilley, is far more suited to overseeing the party's policy review, David Willetts is more than capable of giving David Blunkett a hard time, and Liam Fox provides some glamour. And by putting some of the more talented of the 1997 intake - such as Damian Green and Theresa May - straight on to the Front Bench, with the likes of Andrew Tyrie in reserve as licensed free thinkers, Mr Hague is making best use of the talents available, though the Tories cannot afford to waste a talent such as Ken Clarke. William Hague may be a figure of fun today. But two years ago Mr Blair was nicknamed "Bambi". The Tories' problems need more than a cocked ear, but they should certainly not be written off.

Can Britain revive the Victorian spirit of pride in public service?

"THE JULY measures" hang like a proportion of GDP that passes through curse over Labour public spending plans. No. not these July measures, or at least not yet; rather the fact that when Labour was in office in the Sixties and Seventies its public spending plans were periodically devastated by a July financial crisis.

The government would announce an increase in public spending to be paid for the electorate was assured, by improved economic growth. Everyone would cheer. Then, a couple of years down the line, growth would not be quite as good as forecast and sterling would be hit by a bout of speculation. This usually came in July because, it seemed, dealers wanted to square their books before they went off on holiday. The government would respond with a crisis package of cuts in public spending - the infamous July measures. There were several such packages, the most extreme of which came in 1966 when the National Plan was junked, and in 1976, when the cuts were too timid to satisfy the markets and the country had to go cap-in hand to the IMF later that autumn, introducing yet further cuts.

So the immediate question that oeeds to be answered is: is Gordon Brown is slipping into the mould of furmer Labour chancellors"

There is a second and wider quesbon. Those cuts of 1976 marked the high point of public spending in the UK Since that peak, of nearly 48 per cent of GDP the long-term trend of public spending has been down. The long and often painful process of downsizing the public sector started under a Labour government. More recently other countries have started also cutting the trend growth there will be tremendous

the tax and social security net, gradually passing more and more activities back to the private sector. So the question is whether, under these new plans, Labour is simply trying to reverse the process it began by piling in more money where this seems to be needed. Or whether it is trying to lift the performance of public services so that confidence is rebuilt and a further shift to the private sector can be avoided.

First, is this July expansion a prelude to July cuts? It is tough to say it, but I fear the chances that the Government will be able to sustain these spending plans are no better than

You have to assume that the plans themselves will indeed stick: that there will be no cost overruns on the "investment" side and that there will be no overruns on the wages front. These are extremely hairy assumptions given what has happened to big spending projects in the past and the extent to which public sector wages have been held down. Of course it is possible that the various projects will come in on cost; it is possible that the clamp on wages cao be maintained. But things have to turn out towards the

better end of the likely range. Now ask about the revenue side. The assumptions here look equally hairy. Take growth: after a slowdown this year, growth has to climb back to 2.25 per cent through the early years of the next century: If growth is below that, then revenues will be lower. So if there is a post-millennial recession you can forget the whole thing. If there are more than attout 18 mooths of below-



HAMISH MCRAE Gordon Brown's message

is clear: whingeing is no longer acceptable in the state sector

pressure on public finances. Either borrowing will have to rise, which will push the Government's claims for fiscal probity out of the window; or taxes will have to go up; or these spending plans will have to be cut. The Government's run of luck may

continue. Trouble is, it is just when you need a bit of luck that things are liable to go pear-shaped.

At teast we will know the answer by the next election. On the bigger question, whether by spending more money you can really lift the public sector's game, the outcome will oot be clear for a decade or more. An electorate can chose more or less any size of public sector it wants provided it is prepared to pay the taxes, but in practice the proportion seems to range from between one-third and two-thirds. In Swedeo it is more than 60 per cent land was over 70 per cent in 1993!); in the US it is 32 per cent. We are in the middle of the

pack at 40 per cent. Does Gordoo Brown's "money for modernisation" proposition mean that we can bold it overall in the industrial world since 1993) prove too strong?

The answer lies in the hands of the people who manage the health care and education industries. There is little dispute that modern societies both want and need to spend a higher proportion of their income on health and education. In that sense the Chancellor's priorities match those of all developed countries. It was fascinating to bear yesterday his repeated use of words such as "modernisation", "targets" and "reform". You can turn the words on their heads and point out that this was recognising the way in which these great state industries had failed sufficiently to modernise, set targets or reform themselves. They were, it was implied, still producer-driven organisations, churning out the service they thought was appropriate, rather than responding to what their coo-

sumers demanded Un to now these industries have had convenient excuse: they were starved of cash by a hostile government. I saw a notice at a Loodon Tube station a few months ago saying that it had suspended its escalator refurbishment programme because it bad run out of cash. No private sector organisation would dare bleat to its customers that it had no money to improve its service. But in the public sector this was not just acceptable: it was thought helpful to its case for more taxpayers' money. "We know we are lousy but it's oot uur fault."

Gordoo Brown's clear message is that this sort of whingeing will no longer be acceptable. The cash is there - or there, or will the loog-term trend es- at least some extra cash is there. In retablished in Britain since 1976 and turn these state industries have to change their mind-set; the leopards

have to change their spots. If they do, then the British public sector can be preserved in pretty much its present share and size. Labour, having started the downsizing of the public sector, will have staof the public sector, will have sta-bilised the process. Something of the University Victorian sense of public service embedded in most of us will be revived and re-created. But it will be difficult because there is not that much more money, expectations are high, and the demands of the customers will continue

If they do not, then they will gradually find their relations sour with both Government and more important, their customers. It is perfectly possible to ensure a high quality service and reasonable access for disadvantaged people without the service itself being provided by a state industry. Other countries will continue to experiment with innovative ways of providing ever better health and education services. and of guaranteeing wider access to

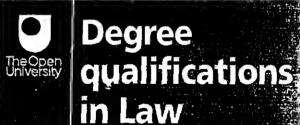
It is a big bet that Gordoo Brown is making. If the electorate finds that public sector has as a result of this spending programme radically lifted its game, then the Government gets much of the credit. If on the other hand the improvements are not generally apparent, or if the spending plans are blown off course" - that was the phrase used to excuse the July measures - you know who gets the blame.

OUOTE OF THE DAY

"People who do not like food are uninteresting People who live on a lettuce leaf are too light-beaded for cooversatioo" Dame Kiri Te Kanawa.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"You have not converted a man because you have silenced him." Lord Morley. British politician and writer



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"IN BRAZILS Worst World Cup final defeat ever, Ronaldo was not Ronaldo. He was just a scared 21-year old kid. The official explanations for Ronaldo's off-day ranged from apparent lies to the ridiculous. The prematch medical attributed it to and back. Except that Ronaldo his ankle. The France 93 information system blamed his calf. - But all week in practice. Ronaldo had been complaining be is now a vulnerable and very about his knee. After the match the Brazil team doctor said the star had had an upset stomach. Or was it just a third degree case of sweaty palms?" Los Angeles Times

"Ronaldo's face is still marked by fear. White and terrified. It is awful to hear what happened, in the Jasmin clinic and al the stadium. It is like one of those dark, Gothic TV ads that are so lashionable: the hero goes to hell really experienced the hell of terror. The one certainty is that Ronaldo is no longer a Martian: human boy. Perhaps his psychologist will stop speking a picture of Ayrton Seuna up in his room, a picture which, it should be said, is not up to much as good luck charms go. Perhaps

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD Reaction to Ronaldo's lack of form in the World Cup final



now... they'll give him time to Even a brain tumour? Whatever recover properly. Because if lhey don't they'll lose him." La Repubblica, Italy

"WHY DID Ronaldo have convulsions? Was it stress? Previously undiagnosed epilepsy?

the cause, he should never have been allowed on the pitch, or at

O Globo, Brazil least pulled off after 15 minutes when it was clear he wasn't following the game. The effects are similar to receiving a strong

breathing are accelerated, dilated pupils, tremors in the hands, legs, lips and tongue, and flat battery. After a convulsion, the body aches, the head aches. you feel sleepy, your ceotral nervous system is affected and motor co-ordination impaired which is terrible for an athlete."

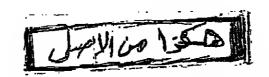
FROM THE moment the defeeding world champions the uncertainty surrounding stepped on to the pitch they looked as if they really didn't want to be there... Brazil electric charge: heartbeat and proved my suspicion that they Sydney Morning Herold

really are a one-man team b cause without a fit Ronald they never even looked li then afterwards feeling like a scoring when the hosts we down to 10 men." Times of India

> RONALDO WAS a virtual pa senger in the most importagame of his career, and Braz never looked capable of pe forming without him. Mario Z. gallo would later concede the Ronaldo had not only disrupte his team but drained their cor

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PANDORA

Transport, and now Tony

Banks, the Sports Minister,

the Anti-Rucksack On The

have thumbed their noses at

Tony refused to speak to us

spokeswoman at the Culture

Media & Sport press office told Pandora, "He [Banks]

said that he would call you

participate. He obviously

hasn't." Glenda and Tony.

obviously you have forgotten

participate" in exactly these

problems that you seem to be

avoiding, not to hide behind

chafe over your own dreary

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE

campaign begins to be felt

Underground system, we

shoulder strap attached.

shoulder-bags. This dodge

will not wash! Amongst the

deluge of mail received in the past 10 days, many readers have urged us to

broaden the crusade in

order to include shoulder-

Rucksacks can easily pose as shoulder-bags, and both

onght to be band-carried in

crowded public spaces instead of being used as

battering-rams. While this

year's campaign remains

under the aegis of a new

Luggage (CCWWL), Plans

THE BLAIRS' summer holiday

is approaching and political

hacks everywhere are watch-

ing to see just how the PM slips out of what appears to be a Gordian knot. Will he,

Cherie and the kids (below)

return, for the third year in a

row, to Tuscany to relax in the

Paymaster General Geoffrey

Robertson's splendid villa? If

so. Blair opens himself to

narges or "consorung wil

his old crony Rohertson". On

the other hand, if the Blairs

choose to holiday somewhere

in, say, Umhria, the headlines

will surely read

"Blair dumps

Robertson".

for a National Rucksack

organisation: Citizens

Concerned With Worn

Awareness Day are

proceeding apace.

nnchanged, we will operate

bags. The campaign agrees.

selfish oafs wearing just one

have heard reports of

the cunning of Britain's

rucksack louts. As the

pressure from our

thus turning their rucksacks into bogus

on the capital's

your PR flacks while you

prospects in the coming

kind of pernicious social

something. We elected you "to

back if he wanted to

directly. Instead a

"WE ARE in touch and in tune | Minister for London with the new Government, hut more importantly we are in touch and in tune with the times." So goes the sales brochure for Lawson Lucas Mendelsohn, one of the lobbying firms at the heart of the "cronygate" controversy. Pandora suggests that the last phrase could just as easily have read "but more importantly we are in touch and in tune with The Times" And even The Sun! Yes, one of LLM's major clients is none other than Rupert Murdoch's News International

When Pandora rang LLM to discuss this, It was stonewall time, but a list of LLM's clients includes News International, along with the Audit Commission, the Local Government Association, the National House Building Council and major corporations such as Tesco, Ladbrokes and Anglian Water. There are many reasons why News International might choose an "in-touch" and "intune" lobtiying firm. Most recently, for example, there was the Predatory Pricing amendment to the Competition Bill. The Government ultimately voted that down in the committee stage. Good work, lads.

TROUBLE IS brewing at the RAC. Pandora has learned that one of the handful of "lady executive members" is contemplating a lawsuit to force the RAC to allow women to share in the £450m flotation windfall that the 12,000 male cinh members expect to receive (£35,000 apiece) when the roadside services division is sold off. It seems that current female members. some of whom pay the same dues as male members, are not considered to have "full memberships".

Although a High Court judge recently upheld this interpretation, some legal experts believe that the women have a strong case for sharing in the booty, or at least for gaining a rebate on their membership fees. After all, the RAC decided last November to allow female members to become "full members" and to enjoy the widest possible benefits of the club.

IT SEEMS that two New Labour ministers, both strongly mooted as potential candidates for London's mayor, can only demonstrate the contempt for rucksack abuse. First Glenda Jackson.



Is Drumcree the Orangemen's Alamo? THE PATHETIC scenes at yesterday's funerals of the three Quinn boys in Rasharkin, County Antrim, would have melted the heart of a stone. Ballymoney joins the long, sad litany of places visited by death. where lives are taken and those of Tube Campaign. Like Glenda, the survivors ruined. Nothing can

> down divisions. Drumcree '98 was awful in terms of death and damage to Northern Ireland's community relations, economy and image. But it was also a defeat for the forces of reaction, for those elements who oppose the Good Friday agreement and the whole idea of a new partnership coalition aimed at bringing the two communities together.

bring the boys back, but it is possible

to believe that their deaths will, un-

like most deaths, help to break

This year's Drumcree had a double purpose. The Portadown Orangemen, for whom the adjective "single-minded" might have been coined, repeated their familiar clockwork Orange act, saying they would stay at Drumcree "for as long as it takes" to get down the Garvaghy Road.



DAVID **MCKITTRICK**

A menacing weapon has been removed from the extremist loyalist armoury

supported them, as per usual, but this time they had the ulterior motive of undermining the new settlement. The Rev Ian Paisley and his allies had lost in the Good Friday referendum and lost again, if only by a narrow margin, in the assembly elections. But they figured they had a couple more cards to play.

One, which is at the advanced Others on the loyalist side planning stage, is the creation of a No campaigners. As a result, David

loyalist rejectionist front combining the Paisleyites, the Orange Order, Robert McCartney's UK Unionists and those people in David Trimble's Ulster Unionist Party who are unhappy about his political direction.

Drumcree was supposed to act as a cement to bring these elements together. It was also supposed to isolate and weaken David Trimble.

Much of his discomfiture arose from the fact that Unionist opinion at first stayed early quiet about the controversy, waiting to see which way the wind was blowing.

But, by the end of the week, a Protestant consensus seemed to be emerging that Drumcree had got out of hand, with the widespread violence making Belfast a ghost town in the evenings. At Drumcree, the Orangemen could not hold back what they called "the blue bags" contingents of helligerent drunks who hrought along their Dutch

courage in plastic bags.

The terrible denouement of the children's deaths has dealt a severe blow to the rejectionist Unionists, for in the public mind there is a clear linkage between Drumcree and the

Trimble is in a stronger position. Furthermore, the rejectionists have become identified in the public mind with the tactic of extra-political street activity. It will be a foolhardy Unionist leader who ever tries to order his people back on to the streets again in such a manner. This is important, in that a menacing weapon has, for the moment, been removed from the extreme loyalist

to argue that political consensus can easily be trumped by determined action on the streets. The leaders of Portadown District Loyal Orange Lodge No 1, founded in 1796, have not yet absorbed this message. They are going to stay on at Drumcree. Unionism is chastened, the Order is split, their movement is more demoralised than ever: many Protestants wish they

armoury. It will no longer be possible

had never heard of Drumcree. But the Portadown brethren. immune to the broader picture, will stay there in what could turn into an Orange version of Greenham Common. Or perhaps the Alamo is a better metaphor, for many of the frontiersmen who made their tenacious but futile stand there, people like Davy Crockett and Jim Bowie, were of obstinate Ulster stock.

As their support dwindles away, as it seems bound to, we may see the emergence of a new formula that will stand a chance of doing away with the annual marching contro-versies. The disaster of Drumcree '98 may lead some opponents of dialogue to conclude that it is the only way.

Drumcree '98 hegan as an attempt to re-establish the old pattern of one community being able, through force of numbers, to impose its will on another. It finished as a stark example of the dangers of that approach, showing what can happen when men try to overwhelm the politics of consensus with the politics of the street.

The battle between the two elements of Unionism, old-style and new-style, is by no means over, but Drumcree '98 has, in the last analysis, weakened the hands of the rejectionists. It has shown the dangers of anarchy and the importance of the rule of law. The pity of it is that these lessons had to be learned the hard way, and that the young lives of the Quinn boys were lost in the process.

Be brave, Tony, and kick out the Cabinet sycophants

ALASTAIR CAMPBELL'S comment that the impending Cabinet reshuffle was junk food for journalists is not surprising given the endless speculation based on unattributable rumour. The news that the Prime Minister had asked civil servants to evaluate the competence of junior ministers has led to even more despair and angst in the lower ranks of Her Majesty's Government.

Uniquely in British political history. Tony Blair's first reshuffle was being speculated about even before he had won the General Election, No sooner had Blair announced that all the members of his Shadow Cabinet would be appointed to his full cahinet than the speculation began about how short a time some would be allowed to serve.

Even in opposition there was massive tension. There was never any doubt that if Labour MPs had heen allowed to elect people to specified posts, then either Robin Cook or John Prescott would have been able to heat Gordon Brown to the post of Shadow Chancellor.

Matters were made worse in July 1996 when super loyalists started to propose that Labour MPs should give up their right to elect the Shadow Cabinet. This proposal stirred up so much suspicion that it had to be dropped. Instead. Labour MPs who had been planning to seek election to the Shadow Cabinet were strong armed and intimidated and even bribed into withdrawing from the contest. In the end, it was only a handful of contestants from the Socialist Campaign Group who hopelessly challenged the incumbents. Even before Labour took office,

anonymous press briefings identified Michael Meacher, Gavin Strang and Frank Dohson as candidates for early retirement in government. In truth, of course, few people have created such a favourable impression



KEN LIVINGSTONE

It is the cronies and incompetent ministers whose mistakes come back to haunt you

as Frank Dobson as he has battled to prise resources for the NHS out of Gordon Brown's puritan grip.

Not surprisingly, most of the fevered speculation has been on the Brown's allies have waged a powerful campaign to try to force Tony Blair into giving Peter Mandelson a Trade and Industry. The rival camp, claiming to be acting on behalf of the Prime Minister are demanding that the blessed Peter be given David Clark's job (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster) in the hope that he would then transform it into a massive power base from which to enforce the Leader's will in every ministry and corner of the realm.

The one thing on which all Labour MPs are agreed is that the speculation has been nothing other than destabilising, while ensuring that acres of newsprint are devoted to the personalities rather than the policies of the Government.

I hecame leader the practice was that Labour councillors elected four of their number to meet with the leader and chief whip, and after an hour or two of back-stabbing in private, a total package would be pre-sented to the Labour Group.

The only consistent feature of this process was that everybody who was elected to the leader's advisory committee was able to conclude after rigorous analysis that they

themselves were best qualified to occupy the most important committee chairs. For those not lucky enough to he elected to the Leader's advisory committee, the only sure way to guarantee a position was to fol-low that sound underlying principle of the British constitution - brown-

I had no doubt that the collective judgement of the GLC Lahour Group would be a better mechanism to evaluate the relative merits of my colleagues. Also, I had no desire to

nosing the leader.

spend endless hours of my time lisrun up to the GLC election, therefore, I persuaded the Labour group to change its rules so that each post ministry to run. maybe Culture or in the administration would be determined by a secret ballot of all Labour councillors. The new system soon settled

down and the Labour group consistently voted for competence rather than cronyism. I have no doubt that if Tony Blair had the confideoce to give up his powers to appoint the Cabinet and pass the decision making to the Parliamentary Labour Party, he would find he ended up with a more competent and effective government.

Any leader is bound to be tempted to guarantee a majority of loyalists in their Cabinet. The temptation to hang oo to loyal retainers who are I faced similar problems in the is almost irresistible. The trouble is days of the old Labour GLC. Before it's your cronies and incompetent



Robin Cook, next Chancellor?

cahinet members who will guarantee a succession of damaging rows in parliament as their mistakes come back to haunt you.

Although the majority of the British public would find reform Tony Blair is going to give up any of his powers of patronage. Every single one of Blair's changes to the rules of the Labour Party and the Parliamentary Labour Party bave concentrated power around the core of sycophants that surrounds him. It is the same instinct to centralise power which may very well lead him to appoint Peter Mandelson to a new cabinet role of super enforcer, a decision guaranteed to cause him endless grief in the long term, and possibly in the short term.

Imagine bow much better it would be for Tony Blair if he actually plucked up courage and gave all us power-less backbench MPs a real bit of influence over the direction of the Government. In a secret ballot of Labour MPs, Gordon Brown would be replaced in the Treasury by Robin Cook who is eminently bet- the outpourings of some half-cut



Gordon Brown of the FO?

ter qualified, with his firmer grasp of economic forces to minimise the impact of the recession that Gordon has made almost inevitable. With his passionate commitment to Europe, Gordon Brown would slot easily into the Poreign Office. Once the Irish peace process has been secured there is no doubt that Labour MPs would elevate Mo Mowlam to the front rank of Labour ministers.

Labour's golden boys, Alan Milburn and Stephen Byers, would know they had been promoted to the Cabinet on their ability rather than simply their loyalty and usefulness to the leader And as for the Cabinet casualties, their whinging and complaining would be irrelevant given that their sackings would have been based on the brutal assessment of 420 colleagues rather than the whim of the leader.

But most attractive of all would be the fact that the spin doctors would almost go out of husiness, given that predicting the decisions of the Parliamentary Labour Party would be much more difficult than reporting

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The truth about towns and cities

the debate about where we should live seems to have been dominated by two negative themes - the dual fears of tearing up green fields, and re-creating Victorian slums. Myth has been huilt on myth. Let me debunk these.

Myth one: People are still moving out of our cities in droves. Between 1981 and 1991, a number of our major cities grew in population: eg Greater London. Nottingham and Leicester. Of those that lost population, only Liverpool and Sheffield suffered losses of more than 5 per cent. But best of intentions, the archiwhat is more important is that if you look at numbers of households rather than population, every one of our major

cities showed an increase. Myth two: Most of the new households that will form over the next decade or so, are going to be single households and they will want to live in a lively urban environment. I am sorry, but the research suggests not. Yes, you may capture the 18-30 young professionals. But the higgest increasing group of single households is the 35-55-yearolds who desire larger prop-

IN THE last 12 months, erties, with gardens, off-street parking and all the other status symbols associated with successful middle age.

The fact that they no longer have a partner and their children have left home does not mean that they will easily be persuaded to downsize.

Myth three: High density means a return to high rise, and that means unacceptable living standards. Many Sixties high-rise developments were constructed at a far lower density than the traditional street patterns that preceded them. The reason is that, with the

tects and planners placed the blocks within areas of parkland. With the rapid increase in car ownership, the green parks hecame car parks, and the rest, as they say, is history. But the densities are often not as

high as people perceive. One more myth: Brown-field land is running out. In truth, we will not know until the Deputy Prime Minister's team has constructed the National Land Use Database, but the evidence suggests that this assertion is wrong. The 1993 Derelict Land Survey reported



PODIUM LORD RODGERS

From a speech by the Chairman of the Urban Task Force to the Urban Villages Forum Conference

of derelict land that is worthy of reclamation.

The task which my group has been given is complex and diverse. The solutions for the metropolitan city are unlikely to be replicable in the market town What may be achievable on a vacant coalfield site will be heavily constrained in a builtup area.

By now you may be questioning my wisdom in agreeing that there were 35,000 hectares to chair the task force. Never-

theless, what I would hope to give you is some idea of how we are going to focus our efforts First, it is clear to me that to make sense of the com-

plexities of the English urban pattern we must adopt a truly global perspective. As I travel around the world, the same spectre looms - environmental degradation, gridlock, increased privatisation of public space, social segre-

gation, low standards of urban design and poor quality of life. Some cities - Los Angeles, Mexico City and Santiago have already lost the battle. Second, we capitulated to market economics. I don't make this necessarily as a pol-

itical statement. I am talking. only about the economics of land use. But in this respect the product of laissez-faire planning is any town. Everywhere begins to look like everywhere else. What purports to be offering freedom and choice of fers no such thing.

There is, however, a different approach - dare I say a "third way". The increased demand for new housing has focused our minds. The redevelopment of large areas of recycled urban land in English

towns and cities provides a significant opportunity to get things right. We must, however, avoid the mistakes of the Sixties and Seventies by working with the inhabitants of our future urban communities. We must respond to the need to create new housing without

creating ghettos of social

The question is: how can we accommodate the maximum amount of development within already developed areas, while simultaneously improving the quality of life?

exclusion.

The second part of my equation is social well-being. I am not a zealot. I recognise that we could provide a physical Utopia in our towns and cities and still fail to achieve sustainable urban communities.

For the task force, this gives us a problem. On the one hand we have to limit our remit to manage our task. On the other, if we present our recommendations into a policy vacuum we achieve nothing.

This Government has given us a clear model of regional development.

We must help to translate that into practical solutions.

Who cares if he's the real father?



YVONNE ROBERTS

Let us view DNA testing as the foundation stone of a society that truly values its young

ON MONDAY, yet another strike was announced in that Nineties Klondike known as genetic commerce. It was revealed that for £300, a do-it-yourself DNA paternity testing kit can be acquired. A cotton wool bud is used to collect cells from inside a child's cheek - with or without the mother's approval - while another swab is taken from the father. Both are dispatched to the company, the DNA Testing Agency. A man will then have an expensive lesson in the cost of a suspicious mind - or the family tree will suddenly find itself with a branch lopped off, and much else besides may become uprooted.

Panic has been the instant reaction to this increase in knowledge about the ties that hind - especially from those who toil in the field of ethics. David Hinchcliffe, chairman of the House of Commons Health Select Committee, called for the tests to he stopped, suggesting "the likely consequences are damaged and destroyed relationships," And Sir Colin Campbell, chairman of the Human Genetics Advisory Committee, voiced key concerns. Whose permission should be sought? Once the information is received, is the father under an ohligation to tell anyone-and if so, whom? But then, on Radin 4's Today programme, he added: "This seems to be a topic without any of the moral context in which it should be approached." As if family life has ever been that tidy.

A pattern is beginning to emerge in the responses to each fresh corner turned in genetics. The first is to act as if many of the dilemmas thrown up have never been encountered before in the span of human history. The second is to suggest a ban. A more realistic approach is go with the flow, strongly steered by the certainty that in the tangle that family ties often become, the "perfect" solution (which also poses the question, perfect for whom?) is rarely achievable. If the aim is the best interests of the child, then, in that "moral context". the fewer the family secrets, the healthier the child.

So, let us take a couple of steps back, before the £300 cheque is dispatched, and accept that for centuries the suspicion of a cuckoo in men has been a haunting possibil-



Fatherhood is about more than just hiology - the quality and honesty of the relationship matter as much as genes

lty for husbands. The key question, as far as children's welfare is con-

cerned, is: how have they reacted? Aristocratic families have often absorbed children from extramarital liaisons into the weave of their family history. Fifty years ago, when divorce was at its lowest, a cuckoo in the marital home meant that a wife had cheated; but some husbands never found out. (In the Seventies, one study accidentally discovered that up to 30 per cent of a group of some 250 women had a child who could not have been the

offspring of its putative father.) For others, the evidence has been obvious, when prolonged absence on war duty has made paternity impossible. In her study Imagining Home, Gender Race and National Identity 1945-64, Wendy Webster, cites one, hearthreaking case.

A newly-married woman was told her husband was missing, believed killed. She had an affair and conceived a boy. The missing husband returned and told his wife she had to choose between them. The boy was adopted, and a year later the husband left. Conversely, Mass

Observation, in which thousands of women recorded their way of lives. also details how some men chose to turn a blind eye to an offspring not of their mould.

In short, if a man is to react well or with hostility, he will do so with or without scientific backing. Plenty of biological children, for instance, have been subjected to abuse as a result of a father's unfounded suspicions that his son or daughter is not his "possession". In that particular situation, DNA paternity testing can only ease a child's trial if, that is, a man is adult enough to accept the truth.

It seems contradictory that at a time in which biological fatherhood is constantly under discussion - for instance, the rights of unmarried fathers are now established - a ban should be sought on a method which, if you are an optimist, could be viewed as a way of strengthening paternal ties.

Fans of The Archers will know that the appalling Kate has just given hirth to a child which the upstanding Roy is coovinced is his. Kate would no doubt object to a nonbiodegradahle swah being inserted into her child's mouth, but in years to come, will her newborn daughter thank ber for refusing to name her dad? (Look, for example, at Paula Yates's distress at discovering that Jess Yates was not ber biological father). And while it may be in a mother's interest to eliminate from her life a man for whom she has no af-

fection, is that fair on ber offspring? The 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child states that a child has a right to know the identity of both parents and to maintain contact. So, why not move a step further? Why not conduct a DNA paternity test on each putative father? (Reluctant dads will present a problem.) A parental contract could then be signed, by both parents, to pledge care and support throughout that child's life.

Let us view DNA testing not as a potential saboteur of "respectable" suburban life - hut the foundation stooe of a society that truly values the stability of its young.

David Hinchcliffe MP has preferred instead to focus on the more negative aspects of the DIY DNA test. Last week, the Child Support Agency belatedly announced that it was simplifying its financial demands on non-residential parents -Mr Hinchcliffe believes that some men will employ the DNA test to cancel their obligations totally. Two million children receive no

contribution from the absent parent, If only a fraction of these parents fork out £300 for the kit, the company which devised it has truly struck gold. On the other hand, if some men subsequently discover they are not the blological parent, and if they have had no long-term relationship with the child, then why should they pay the dues of another man? Better still, perhaps this ag-

grieved cohort can help to pul pressure on the true fathers so that they do remain positively entwined in their children's lives. (Fears about being nobbled for years for paternal dues as the result of a one-night stand can easily be allayed: wear a condom.)

Of course, it is not only fathers who have an instinct about a son or a daughter Biographies are littered with histories of children who grew up feeling "different", only to discover (as did the Body Shop's Anita Roddick: that an "uncle" is the hi-

ological father. Family truths can sometimes cause grievous damage but arguably, deception, omissions

and falsehoods burt far more. Hopefully, once this initial DNA panic bas abated, perhaps the present debate on fatherhood, which has so far placed such a high premium on blood ties, may become more rooted in reality. One in 65 children in Britain will experience divorce; a high proportion will move into stepfamilies. Bad oews and stepfathers appear to go together like Darby and Joan hut, quietly and without fuss, many stepfamilies have found ways to make it work well enough. What matters as much as genes are the quality of a relaaship and the honesty on which

it is based. The writer Carlo Gehler, for instance, has a stepdaughter, India. When she was five, he moved in with her mother. "My first task as a step father," he says, "Was always to make ber feel included and never to leave her out,"

It's a lesson which some biological parents - with or without the help of a DNA test - are never quite grown-up enough to grasp.

RIGHT OF REPLY

JOHN MONAGHAN



A lecturer at Leeds University's Centre for Mathematics Education defends

the use of calculators in schools

THE ARGUMENT goes roughly like this: calculators encourage mental laziness, and childreo become dependent on them; we should return to the good old written methods and ban calculators so that our children become more adept at mental and written arithmetic.

I am far from convinced. Student calculator use has become something of a scapegoat for poor mental arithmetic skills. But there are many issues in this debate. Consider just two, the role of teachers and the relation between written and mental

The 1994 Scieoce & Mathematics Ofsted report ootes the need for teachers to look at calculator use. Surely teachers addressing good calculator practice with pupils is a good thing. But there is a certain difficulty with this if calculators are banned from the

Now let us consider the relationship between a written method and a mental method.

156 + 287. Close your eyes and do this in your bead. How did you do it? I did it hy adding the most significant digits first, i.e. 100 + 200 (mentally noted 300), then 50 + 80 (mentally added on 130 to get 430) and then 6+7 (mentally added on 13 to get 443). I think this is an efficient mental method. Written methods encourage the reverse, the least significant digits first, ie 6+7, put down the 3 and carry 1, etc. I think this makes the mental arithmetic much harder - try it yourself. My point here is simply that written methods do not necessarily lead to good mental methods.

What of the calculator? Well, it is neutral in this case, hut neutral is not "bad".

If we are to push meotal arithmetic in schools, then we should consider all methods, and not just blame the use of calculators.

A lifetime spent in cold comfort

"NEVER INTERFERE in a quarrel hetween queers; they have the y strength of men and the courage of women." This nugget of advice comes courtesy of Stella Gibbons's no-good brother, a man she had to bail out on a number of occasinns, and who proved himself to be a worthy member of the Gibbons family.

If you want to know the inspiration for the barking mad Starkadders of Cold Comfort Farm, the only one of Stella Gibbons's books now widely read, a quick glance round the family portraits tells you all you need to know. Grandfather Gibbons looked like a goat, and he also possessed the appetite of one. He was not above taking a lunge at his sons' women, and extracts from his self-pitying diary, which are included in this book, make for extraordinary reading. Stella's father was no better. A doctor who was greatly admired hy his patients, he was violent and, just like his old dad, sexually rampant. The 11-year-old Stella had to coax him out of committing suicide and, even at that tender age, she realised that he was enjoying the misery that he was causing for those around him.

Stella thought that a list should have been pinned up in the hall so you knew whose names could be uttered in the warring family. Writing her comic classic was a way for Stelia to exorcise the demons of her childhood. The whole boiling mess of the family drama had a comic reincarnation in

the crazed Starkadders. Educated at first by governesses, who left the house in tears or high indignation, depending on how they had taken Dr Gibbons's advances, Stella went on to the North London Collegiate School and then took a two-year course in journalism. She got a job at a news agency but carried on living at home to give her mother some support against the cruelty of her father. Her mother was soon to die of cere-



WEDNESDAY BOOK

OUT OF THE WOODSHED: THE LIFE OF STELLA GIBBONS BY REGGIE OLIVER, BLOOMSBURY, £25

bral thrombosis; the funeral service was interrupted by Dr Gibbons shouting: "Oh, she was a bitch! She never cooked properly. What I had to put up with!" Six months later, he too was dead. With both of the pareots gnne. Stella and her two hrothers went off to share a cottage in Hampstead.

It was, initially, a happy period. Stella was writing and Hampstead, at the time, was still something of a rural idyll, possessing a good deal of Bohemian charm. But the Gibbons genes outed soon enough. The brothers took to drinking heavily and bringing some very dodgy women back to the house. There were wild

hood would not let go of her. Battlescarred from the scenes of her early years, she craved nrder - like Flora Post, Cold Comfort's organising heroine. She earned the money ran the house and cleaned up the messes of her two brothers.

At work things were a good deal better. She was rising in the world of journalism, despite having heen sacked from her agency job for miscalculating the rate of the franc against the dollar. Her poems were getting published (Virginia Woolf was greatly impressed by them! and so were her short stories. Then came Cold Comfort Farm - her brilliant parties and what might have been a swipe at all those awful, earthy nnvlouche social life, but Stella's childels that were so popular during the

WEDNESDAY POEM

THE STRANGER BY SEMEZDIN MEHMEDINOVIC, TRANSLATED BY KATHLEEN JAMIE AND ANTONELA GLAVINIC

One day, I too will set off alone into the darkness of a grave on Alifakovak, or some other city hill, here where I once knew everyone. Now, I recognise no one at all,

except two or three and only at night, alone from the past, do I look out at the darkness of the city from someone else's flat, I, the stranger, the stranger.

This is our final selection from Chris Agec's onthology of contemporary poetry from Bosnia. 'Scor an the Stone' (Bloodoxe, £8.95)



fortune. A year later she also had a husband, the singer and actor, Allan It is at this point that Stella Gibbons

somehow drifts out of her nephew's biography. She longed to be ordinary and Reggie Oliver colludes with her wish, tidying away her husband's affairs and glossing over her strained relationship with her only child, Laura, Unwilling to delve into her private life. Oliver makes only a vague attempt to outline her public one. She travelled a bit: she met friends for tea in Highgate and made occasional sallies into the literary world. Oliver pads out the rest of his biography with a whistle-stop lour of the plots nl Stella's later work. But seeing that her literary career went into a considerable decline after Cold Comfort Farm, this probably was not a good game plan.

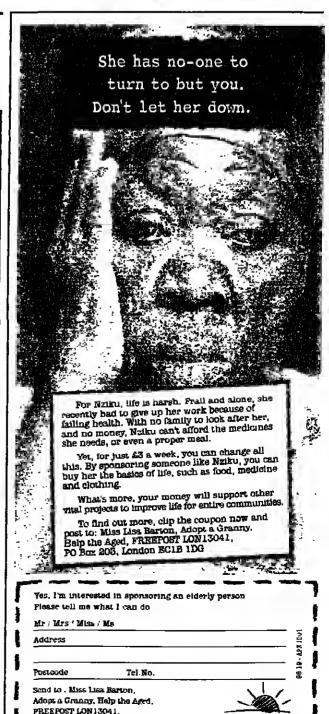
As a widow, Stella Gibbons ran a literary salon on the first Saturday of

Twenties - and she had fame and every month. John Braine, "with one or two female acolytes", was a regular attender, as well as anyone young. interesting or good-looking who had caught Stella's eye. You would hope that Reggie, who himself has written a few plays (including the engagingly titled Put Some Clothes on, Clorisso?. would have hreathed a little life into these events. Unfortun-

ately, that is not the case. The no-good brother fades from the book quite early, under a financial cloud. Reggie Oliver moves through the rest, tidying things away in the woo ished. You can sympathise. It's not a sy to write frankly about your own relations and still stay civil round the (hristmas turkey ("Av. would it were a vulture, 'twere more fitting").

On matters literary, Oliver writes "there is a recurrent if not invariable critical prejudice as favour of a little duliness". He should be so lucky.

SUSAN JEFFREYS



PO Box 203, London ECI 2 10G Or phone 0171 250 4481

Adopt a Granny

Lord Boyd-Carpenter

THROUGHOUT HIS long and distinguished life, John Boyd-Carpenter did everything that came his way, intellectual or physical, with zest and pugnacity, and often with remarkable effect. He also liked everything done at speed, and could be bruisingly hrusque with hesitation - however wellfounded - or delay. His mind was not a particularly subtle one, but he could use it like a hatchet to hack through the undergrowth of often complicated, and even tortuous political problems. He liked to attack business directly and, for preference, immediately.

Between 1965 and 1970 the Conservatives went through a period of intense intellectual activity which, in many respects, prefigured what it was to undergo under Margaret Thatcher between 1975 and 1979. In 1965 the new Leader, Edward Heath, decreed that every single aspect of policy should be re-examined in great detail, and with radical intentions.

The then rather large Conservative Research Department contained a great many young officers who responded with enthusiasm to the possibility this offered them of influencing new policy. A number of politicians were only too eager to benefit from the energies and initiatives of the youngsters in what virtually amounted to a shadow Civil Service. One of the foremost of these politicians was John Boyd-Carpenter: though by then in his late fifties, he had the energy of youth, and he invariably responded with openness and generosity to often merely sketched ideas.

One anecdote will, I hope, illustrate how Boyd-Carpenter went about his work. The Conservative Party came to power in 1970 in possession of a highly complex set of plans for the reform of the National Health Service and the social security system, responsibility for both of these aspects of the welfare state then under the hand of a single minister.

Boyd-Carpenter - rightly as it turned out - suspected the resolution of the new Secretary of State, Sir Keith Joseph. Boyd-Carpenter decided to call on Joseph. He requested back-up from the Conservative Research Department and the late Rosemary Marten. Chris Patten, and myself were detailed to accompany him to the DSS headquarters, then at Elephant and Castle. He said he would pick us up at our office in Old Queen Street.

He arrived so comfortably ahead of time that we assumed he required a preliminary hriefing, after which we would take a taxi to the department. Not so. We would, he anclear our heads". Some time later the thoroughly refreshed and totally clear-headed portly backbencher arrived at Elephant and Castle with three puffed-out youngsters trailing in his wake. He then put Joseph and his senior civil servants through a punishing inquisition, rarely referring to us save on the occasional matter of detail. I thought then - and I think now - that the Heath government would have fared better had Boyd-Carpenter, that most capable and pugnacious of men, been

inserted as Secretary of State rather Indian Summer (1981) - that the than the indecisive Joseph.

Boyd-Carpenter was born in 1908, the son of an MP, and political talk filled his household. He was educated at Stowe and Balliol. He left Oxford with a good degree in History, and a Diploma in Economics. He decided to read for the Bar, and in the process of his legal development collected the Harmsworth Law Scholarship and the Council of Legal Education'a Prize for Constitutional Law.

In 1937 he married a soldier's daughter, Margaret Hall, whose father was a Colonel in the Scots Guards, which regiment he joined in 1940, rising, in the course of the war, to the rank of Major in 1943. Hostilities being over he entered - as he had always planned to - politics, holding the safe Tory seat of Kingston in the general election debacle of 1945. He held that seat

His mind was not a particularly subtle one, but he could use it like a hatchet to hack through the undergrowth of complicated political problems

until he was elevated to the peerage

Though he never quite reached the very front rank in politics - he was, perhaps, too abrasive a character for that - Boyd-Carpenter was a formidable minister, respected, and perhaps even feared, by his civil servants.

The interesting thing about his ministerial career - and what made him invaluable in the opposition vears of 1964 to 1970, and again between 1974 and 1979 - was that it straddled domestic social affairs and economic matters. He was surprised to be appointed, in the 1951 government, by Churchill, to be Financial Secretary to the Treasury, for he had never, hitherto, evinced any particular interest in matters economic. He had just discovered, as he was to record later in his 1980 memoirs Way of Life, Churchill's liking for appointing ministers to offices in the work of which they had little or no experience, so that they would hring fresh minds, rather than halfbaked ideas, to a new department.

It should be noted, incidentally, that, in Way of Life, Boyd-Carpenter refused to recycle well-known stories about Churchill, and the great man's somewhat idiosyncratic method of cooducting the husiness of government. Boyd-Carpenter's book provides invaluable first-hand evidence to support Anthony Seldon's thesis - expressed in his immensely scholarly Churchill's

generally under-estimated 1951 government was a highly effective one.

With the exception of the brief period of 1954 to 1955, when he was Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation, Boyd-Carpenter was, at various times, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, and Chief Secretary as well as Paymaster-General. From 1955 to 1962, however, he was Minister of Pensions and National Insurance, while in opposition from 1964 he was his party's chief spokesman on housing and Chairman of the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee

The significant thing to record about his ministerial career is the fact that, in each post in which he served he found a mess, and began a sorting out of the mess before he was moved on. For example, when be went to the Ministry of Transport. he found that he had two Permanent Under-Secretaries under him. One was quite uninterested in shipping (one of the new minister's responsibilities) and another uninterested in aviation. The reason, of course, for this dilution of concern and effort was that these two men had, hitherto. been responsible for different departments, and were concerned jealously to guard their old territories.

Boyd-Carpenter, in his usual decisive manner, sorted out differences, integrated the disparate elements and produced the first comprehensive system for administering transport policy which the country had seen. He it was, for example, who began the creation of the British motorway system. Although today, in some circles, it is fashionable to decry that system as environmentally unfriendly, the sober truth of the matter is that, without Boy-Carpenter's often patient - but, also, often peremptory - groundwork, British industry, with the vast-ly increasing demand for (relatively) efficient methods of transferring goods from one place to another, would have seized up.

Every government learns rapidly how difficult it is to reconcile the expensive dreams and hopes of the welfare state with the stringent economic requirements of the Treasury. Correspondingly, the burden of negotiation with spending departments places an enormous hurden on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, his job being almost as impossibly burdensome as that of the Prime Minister. Because of his awareness of this serious difficulty, Harold Macmillan decided, in 1962, tohring the Chief Secretary to the Treasury -Boyd-Carpenter-into the Cabinet. Various of Macmillan's successors have tried to reverse this dispensa-One of the reasons for the change was that it had been found that departmental ministers would resist abjurations from a junior minister on matters of financial prudence, and appeal over his head to the Chancellor.

Once Boyd-Carpenter was in the Cabinet, the Prime Minister decreed that he should be responsible for the control of public expenditure while that I was in such matters". the Chancellor, Reginald Maudling, took care of what, nowadays, we call macro-economic policy, including taxation and economic foreign relations.



John Boyd-Carpenter, as Minister of Transport, arriving at 10 Downing Street for a cabinet

Boyd-Carpenter went about the work with a will, his detailed understanding of social security matters - gained from his six and a half years at the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance - ensured that the husiness of welfare was dealt with in a sensitive way. But he dealt spending ministries with relish, never erring except on the side of good national housekeeping. He quickly and wryly noted, however, that some ministers deferred claims for greater expenditure until he was abroad, when they could approach Maudling directly. This was hecause "Reggie was a kinder man

It is more than ordinarily useful, therefore, to have a minister or opposition spokesman who has experience in both spending and saving

departments, and who can thus efficiently ally aspiration and pru-dence. Until nearly the end of his life Boyd-Carpenter, whether in the Commons or in the Lords, expressed himself pungently and with effect on matters of health, social welfare and economics.

period of his life, to acquire a significant portfolio of husiness interests. He was, from 1969 to 1972, chairman of Orion Insurance, from 1972 to 1977 of the Civil Aviation Authority (where he took great pleasure in granting an air-worthiness certificate to Concorde, the financial groundwork for which he had laid at the Treasury) and chairman of Rugby Portland Cement from 1976 to 1984. He also found time to be, at various periods, chairman of the Carlton Club and of the Association

of Conservative Peers as well as Deputy Lieutenant for Greater London for a decade from 1973.

To all these activities he hrought his familiar characteristics of incisiveness and tenacity of intellect, as well as his formidably hlunt manner of private and public speaking.

If it ought to be a crucial part of the role of the House of Commons to hold the executive of the day to account, there was no more assiduous and well informed performer than John Boyd-Carpenter, writes Tam Dalyell. He was one of the great examiners of the administration of the last 40 years.

Of his legendary late-night guerrilla activity against the Attlee government (1945-51), I have no direct knowledge. What I do know is that,

as Richard Crossman's shadow between 1964 and 1966, it really mattered to the Minister of Housing, his Permanent Secretary Dame Evelyn Sharp, and the officials, what Boyd-Carpenter asked, said and thought in that pounding monotone which was his hallmark.

As PPS (Parliamentary Private Secretary) on the Commons bench I could only marvel at how he was immersed in the details of the Protection from Eviction Bill, followed by the Rent Bill, followed by the Housing Subsidy Bill, followed by the Rating Bill, not to mention ad hoc debates such as one of censure on Packington. And it was, further, an amazing fact that this spokesman found the time to be the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee.

As a member along with John Biffen, Aidan Crawley, Col Sir Oliver Crosthwaite-Eyre, Edward du Cann, Sir Douglas Glover, Jack Mendelson, Charles Morris, Arthur Probert, Samuel Silkin, Dame Irene Ward and Gerald Wills, I saw how he transformed himself from being a partisan politician to an extremely fair inquisitor.

Under his chairmanship we examined the leading civil servants of the day and his conduct made one proud of the profession of politics. Etched in my memory is his examination in February 1965 of Sir Richard Way, the distinguished and exceedingly able Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Aviation responsible for Concorde and its escalating costs. Even Sir Edmund Compton, the Comptroller and Auditor General who had worked to Harold Wilson and Douglas Houghton when they were chairmen of the Public Accounts Committee, told me that Boyd-Carpenter had been an outstanding tour de

Believing that, because of his behaviour when Foreign Secretary at Rambouillet over Suez and negotiations with the Israelis, Selwyn Lloyd was not papabile to be Speaker of the House of Commons, I was active in the group of Labour Members supporting Boyd-Carpenter to succeed Horace King. We failed. But I hold to the opinion of those of 1971 that Boyd-Carpenter, had he been elected Speaker, would have been a distinguished holder of

John Archibald Boyd-Carpenter, politician: born 2 June 1908; called to the Bar. Middle Temple 1934: MP (Conservative) for Kingstonupon-Thames 1945-72; Financial Secretary to the Treasury 1951-54: Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation 1954-55; PC 1954; Minister ance 1955-62; Chief Secretary to the Treasury and Paymaster-General 1962-64: Chairman, Public Accounts Committee 1964-70: created 1972 Baron Boyd-Carpenter: Chairman, Civil Aviation Authority 1972-77; chairman, Rugby Portland Cement 1976-84; Chairman. Carlton Club 1979-86; Chairman Association of Conservative Peers 1985-90, President 1991-98; married 1937 Margaret Hall tone son, two daughters); died Crux Eaton. Hompshire 11 July 1998.

Jimmy Driftwood

WHAT STARTED out as a tool for a history lesson being given by an Arkansas school teacher ended up in the US pop charts for six weeks and provided a near-hit for the British skiffler Lonnie Donegan. The schoolteacher was called James Morris and his song was called "The Battle of New Orleans", a celebration of the last battle of the war of 1812.

It was such a success that he changed his name to Jimmy Driftwood, persuaded the country star Johnny Horton to record the song, and devoted the rest of his life to using music to put American children in touch with their history.

Driftwood's father, Neil Morris, was a traditional performer who had been recorded by America'a leading folksong collecter Alan Lomax, so it wasn't at all surprising that Drift-wood took a traditional fiddle tune, "The Eighth of January", as the melody for his "The Battle of New Orleans", the story of the time when the British "began to runnin' / On down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico" (ironically - and ridiculously - when Lonnie Donegan recorded the song and got it to No 2 in the UK charts, the words were changed to "the rebels began to runnin' ", presumably to spare the blushes of any military descendants of the British general Sir Edward Pakenham who was licked so deci-

sively in the battle). Driftwood's grandparents had moved from Tennessee to Arkansas before the Civil War, and it was on a home-made guitar, built by his grandfather from a fence rail, an ox yoke and part of a bedstead headboard, that Driftwood first began to play music as a boy. He also learned



Driftwood learned to play as a boy on a home-made guitar

his time when walking the 14 miles in the early Fifties by RCA Victor to a day to and from school recalling put together an album of Newly Disthe songs he had learned from members of his family.

Though he graduated from Arkansas State Teachers College

fiddle and banjo, and spent much of gional folk festivals, and was asked covered Early American Folk Songs. which included "The Ballad of New Orleans".

As a result of the Jimmy Horton and started teaching in the Forties, hit, and Eddy Arnold's similar suc- (three sons deceased); died Fny-Driftwood was also performing at recess with another of his songs, etteville, Arkansas 12 July 1998.

"Tennessee Stud". Driftwood got a job with the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, and became a popular folk festival performer. He won Grammy awards for both "New Orleans" and "Tennessee Stud", and also for his album Songs of Billy Yank and Johnny Reb. He never lost touch with his

roots, however, and certainly didn't get caught up in the Nashville glitter, instead devoting much of his energy to spreading awareness of the songs and cultural heritage of the peoples of the Ozark Mountains, setting up the Rackensack Folklore Society, and organising in 1963 the first of a series of Arkansas Folk Festivals. He also campaigned for the pro-

tection of natural resources, notably in a successful campaign against the damming of the Buffalo River in north Arkansas. With money from the Federal Government, he persuaded the Arkansas Commission of Parks, Recreation and Tourism to set up the \$3.4m Ozark Folk Center, not a mile away from his home.

He and his wife Cleda also set up the Driftwood Barn near the family farm, to give him a permanent place to perform at weekends. No entrance fee was charged, hut the hat was passed round in traditional folk style. By the time of his death the barn had become an official facility of the University of Central

Karl Dallas

James Corbett Morris (Jimmy Driftwood), singer/songwriter and teacher: born Mountain View. Arkansas 20 June 1907; married

Lester King

LESTER KING's misfortune was to be a West Indies fast bowler in the era of Wesley Hall and Charlie Griffith, an opening pair who rank in cricket history with the most ferocious and the fastest. He emerged in the Jamaica team of 1961 and made his debut for West Indies. against India, on his home pitch at Sabina Park in April 1962.

King had a hustling action, his stock ball being fast-medium and he opened with Hall, India facing a total of 253. In an hour India lost five wickets for 26 and six for 40, five of them to King, his victims including Vijay Manjrekar and Chandu Borde. West Indies won the match by 123 and the rubber 5-0 and on the strength of this performance King spent the 1962-63 season playing for Bengal.

He was also chosen for the 1963 tour of England as Hall's partner but had to compete for a Test place with Griffith and Garfield Sobers. He did take 47 wickets on the tour, at an average of 27, and was commended by Wisden for his "accurate and sustained" attack in a defeat by Yorkshire at Middlesbrough.

King figured in an incident in that match that had both dressing rooms laughing afterwards and became a staple after-dinner story. Today it might provoke litigation.

When Fred Trueman was batting against Hall the West Indies captain Sobers called up an umbrella field to support the then fastest bowler in the world. Trueman spotted that Rohan Kanhai had been hrought up from third man and King called in even closer at fine leg. When Hall was fully into his stride, his gold neck chain swinging from ear to ear, Trueman stopped him in mid-gallop and then called to Sobers: "If these



King in action for the West Indies at Eastbourne, 1963

bloody fielders coom any closer I'll Test record, in two matches, of nine appeal against the light."

King also toured India as the reserve fast bowler in 1966-67 and made his second appearance for West Indies in the draw against Lester Anthony King, cricketer: England in April 1968 at Georgetown, Guvana, taking 2-79. In a career that

wickets at an average of 17 and a career record of 142 wickets at 31. Derek Hodgson

born St Catherine Parish, Jamaica 27 February 1939; died Kingston, spanned only eight years he had a Jnmaica 9 July 1998.

Professor David Ayalon

DAVID AYALON was a leading figure in Islam, published in Leiden, London the field of Arabic studies and of Middle Eastern history.

Born in Haifa in 1914, Ayalon spent his childhood in Rosb Pina, in Galilee. He received his secondary education at the famous Reali School in Haifa, his higher education at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. His PhD thesis was on the Mameluke institution in medieval Egypt. It was a subject that absorbed him for the rest of his life.

During the Second World War he served as a volunteer in the British army. After the war be worked for the Jewish Agency and, after the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948, for its Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This service was of brief duration. In 1949 he joined the academic staff of the Hebrew University, first as founder and director of the Department of the Middle East in Modern Times, then as director of the Institute of Asian and African Studies. Ayalon became a full professor in 1959, and remained active in teaching and research until, and long after, his retirement. At the moment of his death, several oew studies are still in the press.

Like many scholars in small countries with little-known languages, Ayalon worked and published on two levels: in his own language for his fellow coun-trymen; and in a world language - in his case English - for the international scholarly community. In both of these he did pioneer work.

His most important cootribution to Israeli scholarship was a dictionary. In a country where a significant proportion of the population, as well as all the neighboring states, speak Arabic, an accurate knowledge of that language and of the culture that it enshrines is obviously a primary educational need. Ayalon devoted much of his life to deepening and extending that knowledge.

In 1947, in association with a colleague, Pesah Shinar, he published a pioneer Arabic dictionary, which at once became and has remained a standard work of reference. In addition to its obvious usefulness to speakers of either language studying the other, it is also an important contribution to Arabic lexicography, recording and explaining many new terms and usages in that constantly evolving language.

His contribution to international scholarship was primarily in history, more especially the history of armies and warfare, and of the Mameluke institution by which so much of the military history of the region was shaped. His primacy in the field is attested by the score or more articles that he wrote for the international Encyclopaedia of and Paris. These included pioneering studies on such topics as warfare, siegecraft, firearms and the like, in their Middle Eastern historical context.

But Ayaloo was not simply a military historian, important as that may be. His studies go deeper, and examine the social and cultural implications both of military change and of the rejection of military change. His book Gunpowder and Firearms in the Mamluk Kingdom: challenge to n medieval society (1956) is a case in point. So, too, are his many articles on the institution of military slavery. Starting with late medieval Egypt, he extended his studies both backward into the period of the caliphate, and forward, into the functioning of the Mameluke institution in Ottoman Egypt.

David Ayalon received many honours, both in Israel and abroad. Among others, he was a recipient of the highly esteemed Israel Prize (1972), a member of the Israel Academy of Sciences (1961), an honorary fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society (1992), the American Oriental Society (1993) and the American Historical Association (1997). He is sur-

When scholars on both sides of the Middle East conflict are able to examine each other's history with the same dispassion. peace will be significantly nearer

vived by his widow Myriam Rosen Ayalon, Professor of Islamic Art and Archaeology at the Hebrew University. Let me conclude with two anecdotes. Some time in the 1950s, t ran into Ayalon coming out of the British Museum. He was visibly angry, the object of his anger being President Nasser. I assumed that this was Ayalon the Israeli, concerned about his country's conflict with Egypt, I was quite wrong. It was Ayalon the historian who was angry. He had just read Nasser's Philosophy of the Revolution, and was outraged by "the slanderous nonsense that Nasser talked about the Mamelukes".



The second anecdote, some years later relates to an Egyptian doctoral student, working on the medieval history of his country. Since Ayalon was visiting Loodoo at the time, f thought it would be useful for the student to meet a leading authority in his field. There were, however, the obvious difficulties in the the way of such a meeting, and I put it to the student that, while f thought it might be useful for him to meet and discuss his work with the Israeli professoc I had no wish to cause him any trouble or even embarrassment, and would understand perfectly if he preferred not to meet. The student was de-

lighted - nothing would give him greater pleasure than to meet this great scholar and profit from his wisdom and knowledge. They met on several occasions. and parted on the friendliest terms.

When scholars on both sides of current Middle East conflicts are able to examine each other's history and beritage in the same spirit of dispassionate scholarship. peace will be significantly oearer. Bernard Lewis

David Neustadt (David Ayalon), lexicographer: born Haifa. Palestine 17 May 1914; married Myriam Rosen: died Jerusalem 25 June 1998.

HISTORICAL NOTES

DOUGLAS JOHNSON

Commemoration manqué

CAPTAIN ALFRED Dreyfus may have said of himself that he was only an artillery officer whose career had been interrupted by a tragic error. But his name now stands for the fight against injustice. The prisoner on Devil's Island denied that he bad sold military secrets to the Germans. But it was said that be was Jewish and not French. He was the victim of prejudice, irrational ideology and a perverted system of justice. His final victory was, and remains, a victory for civilisation.

France is a country that believes in the commemoration of important events in French history, but, although Dreyfus was arrested in October 1894, there was no celebratioo until 13 January 1998. And this marked the 100th anniversary of Emile Zola's famous newspaper article "J'Accuse".

The ceremony was very grand. A plaque was placed on the house where Zola bad lived, the Minister for Education assured a large gathering at the Sorbonne that "J'Accuse" would be read to all pupils in state schools, and the Prime Minister, accompanied by his leading ministers, paid hommage to Zola in the crypt of the Panthéon, the resting place of France's

But why choose Zola to commemorate Dreyfus? It is true that his article caused great excitement and made the affair a matter of public interest. But it did not convince the public that Dreyfus was innocent. If one is to follow the step-by-step process whereby Dreyfus was eventually freed, we should have had our attention called to 7 July last

On 7 July 1948, the then minister for War, Cavaignac, revealed to the National Assembly the documents which supposedly proved Dreyfus's guilt. For the first time, details were given. This was a great moment and it was officially decided that an extract from the speech should be placarded in every commune in France. But five weeks later It was discovered that the principal document was a forgery. The case against Dreyfus was collapsing,

Why then does 7 July 1998 pass unnoticed? It is because commemorations of the past bave to be relevant to the preseot. "J'Accuse" responds to the preoccupations and pretensions of France today. It represents the triumph of French



Alfred Dreyfus: a victory for civilisation

literature. It is the action of the committed intellectual, who is specifically French. With Zola, we look back to Voltaire and forward to Sartre. We are commemorating a whole world of French achievement.

In political terms. Zola's "J'Accuse" remade the Republican "bloc" and brought about a clear-cut division betweeo radicals and conservatives. Consequently, the day after his speech in the Pantheon, Jospin tried to associate the present Left with the Dreyfusards, whilst pointing to the opposition, the Right, as the party that was always anti-Dreyfus. He hoped to benefit from Zola in 1998, as Clemenceau had in 1898. He wanted to appear at the head of a party imbued with ideals, not as a government dealing with the technical problem of unemployment.

The Zola letter is part of the drama of French history. The highest in the land are accused of complicity with injustice. But the letter also poses a moral problem. Those whom Zola attacks were not cheap villains. They were patriots who believed that they were protecting a France that had just been defeated in a war with Prussia. So, as the Freochman today thrills to Zola's words, he asks himself if he would have put the welfare of an individual before that of the French army?

Thus, in France, commemoration relives both the excitements and the moral dilemmas of the past. To commemorate the past is to give life to the present. "Je commémore, donc je suis.

Douglas Johnson is the author of 'The Dreyfus Affair' (Susser Publications, £11)

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

BIRTHS

MUSSERT: On 16 June, to Adam and Lindsay, another wonderful son, George Patrick, a brother to Luke.

THURLOW: On 11 July 1998, to Jacqui and Simon, a son, Miles David, a brother for Madeline

DEATHS

BINDON: (née Organe), Sally, beloved wife of Martin, sister of Jan and Michael, and much-loved aunt, died peacefully on Saturday 11 July after a long and courageous battle against illness. Funeral 2.20pm Monday 20 July at Croesycelliog, Cwmbran. Flowers, or donations for Cancer Research. Enquiries to R. Bevan, 01873 E30449.

LEWIS: Edna, died peacefully on 10 July 1998 at Broadlands, Capel Llanilltern. The funeral will take place on Friday 17 July, at Glyntaff Crematorium, at 3pm. at Glyntali Crematorium, at 3pm.
LOUGH: Suddenly on July 13
Muriel Inde Barker), of Durham, aged 84 years. Dearly loved wife of John tretired Professor of French) and a much-loved mother of Judith. Funeral to take place on Monday 20. Would friends please meet for service and cremation at Durham Crematorium at 1.30pm. Family flowers only, please, by request. Donations in lieu, if so desired, to Cancer Research.

to Cancer Research.

SUFTON: On 13 July, Anne Leslie (née Hope), of Maldon Court School, with great courage, dignity and grace, at home, surrounded by her beloved family. Suneral at All Saints' Church, Maldon, on Tuesday 21 July at 11 30am, followed by cremation (family only). No flowers, please. Donations, if desired, to the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund and/or the Samaritans, c/o A.G. Smiths, 7 Spital Road, Maldon. A Thanksgiving Service for Anne will be field in the autumn. to Cancer Research.

IN MEMORIAM

AVERY: Elliott George. One year ago, miss you loads, young Avery. Mark and Melda.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS are charged at £1.56 a line (VAT entral.

BIRTHDAYS

The Sultan of Brunel, 52: Professor Sir James Ball, economist, 65; Dr Jocelyn Bell Burnell, astronnmer, 55; Sir Harrison Birtwistle, composer, 64; Mr Julian Bream, guitarist, 65; Mr Geoffrey Burgon, composer, 57; Lord Buxton of Alsa, former chairman, Anglia Television, 80; Miss Carmen Callil, founder, Virago Press, 60; Mr Robert Conquest, writer, 81; Professor Sir David Cox, former Warden of Nuffield College, Oxford, 74; Mr John Denham MP. Parliamentary Secretary. Social Security, 45; Sir Alexander Durie, a former vice-president of the AA, 83; Sir Malcolm Edge, former Deputy Master and Chairman, Board of Trinity House, 67; Air Marshal the Rev Sir Paterson Fraser, 91; Sir Simon Gourlay, former President, National Farmers' Union, 64; Sir John Graham, former diplomat, 72; Miss Ann Jellicoe, playwright and theatre director, 71; Mr Charles Kelly, former Chief Constable, Staffordshire, 68; Sir Larry Lamb, former Editor, Daily Express. 69; Dame Iris Murdoch, novelist and philosopher, 79; Mrs Juliet Pannett, portrait painter, 87; Mrs Marion Roe MP, 62: Miss Linda Ronstadt, singer, 52; Mr Ron Smith, trade unionist, 83; Air Chief Marshal Sir Ruthven Wade, 78; Professor Lord Winston, obstetrician and gynaecologist, 58.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Inigo Jones, architect, 1573; John Barnett (Beer), composer, 1802; Sir Henry Cole, promoter of the

ROYAL

ENGAGEMENTS

The Duke of Edinburgh,

President of the City and

Guilds of London Institute,

Great Exhibition of 1851 and founder of the South Kens-

ingtoo Museum, 1808: Henry Edward Manning, Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. 1808; Benno Adam, animal painter, 1812; Dame Marie Tempest, (Marie Susan Etherington) actress. 1864: Alfred Charles William Harmsworth, first Viscount Northcliffe, newspaper proprietor, 1865; Noel Gay (Richard Moxon Armitage) composer, 1898. Deaths: Vladimir I, Prince of Kiev. 1015; Jean-Germain Drouais. historical painter, 1788; Karl Czerny, pianist and composer, 1857; William H. Bonney talias Henry McCarty, or "Billy the Kid"), outlaw, shot by Sheriff Pat Garrett 1881; General Tom Thumb" (Charles Sherwood Stratton). a 40in-tall dwarf in Barnum's circus, 1883; Anton Pavlovich Chekhov, playwright and author, 1904; Emil Hermann Fischer, chemist. 1919: Mary Cholmondeley, novelist, 1925; Walter Gay, artist, 1937; John Joseph Pershing, soldier, 1948; Paul William Gallico. writer, 1976; Margaret Mary Lockwood, actress, 1990. On this day: Jerusalem was captured by the Crusaders, 1099; the Royal Society was granted a royal charter, 1662; the "Mnrseillaise" was adopted as the French National Anthem, 1795: margarine was patented by Hippolyte Mege Mouries of Paris, 1869: Social Insurance came into effect in Britain.

1912; Mrs Clara Adams of

the-world flight (19 hours.

four minutes), 1939: Alco-

holics Anonymous was

founded in Britain, 1948:

close-up pictures of Mars

presents awards at Bucking-

ham Palace, followed by

lunch at the Connaught

Hotel, London W1. The

Commandant-in-Chief.

Cadets, St John Ambulance.

Princess Royal,

woman to complete a round-

New York was the first

were transmitted by television from US Mariner IV satellite, 1965. Today is the Feast Day of St Athanasius of Naples, St Barhadbesaba. St Bonaventure. St David of Munktorp, St Donald, St Edith of Polesworth, St Pompilio Pirrotti, St Swithin and St Vladimir of Kiev.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "Caravaggio tiiit: The Flagellation of Christ". 1pm: Gabriele Finaldi, "Canaletto Paints Venice", 6.30pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: I. Amelia Fearn. "Silver Design in the 20th Century", 2pm.

LUNCHEONS

Institute of the Motor Industry Prince Michael of Kent. President of the Institute of the Motor Industry, presided over the institute's President's Lunch held yesterday at Fanshaws, Brickendon, Hertfordshire, Prince Michael handed over the presidency to Lord Brabazon

DINNERS

Foundatinn for Science and Technology Lord Jenkin of Roding. Chairman, Foundation for Science and Technology was in the chair at a lecture and dinner discussion held vesterday evening at the Royal Society, London SW1, Dr Geoffrey Robinson, Professor Martin Boddy and Mr Dave Hampton spoke on "Quality

attends a youth "Care in the

Community" reception at

Princess Alexandra opens

the new Armitt Library and

Museum, at Ambieside.

Buckingham Palace.

of Life for the Millennium Generation - living and working space". Among those present were: Lord and Lady Butterworth, Lord Chorley; Lurd Gregson; Baronoss Hillinn; Lurd Gregson; Baronoss Hillinn; Lurd Quirk, Sir Austin Bider Field Marshal Sir John Chappe; Sir Lienffrey Chappertield; Professor Dame Karbara Cheston, Sir Hichard Morros; Sir Martin Rees, Air Tam Dolyell MP: In lan Gibson MP, Mr John McPall MP; Mr Andrew Miller, MP, Miss Jenny Burun; Le Jun McQuaid Dr Feler J W. Sounders.

HMS Victory Admiral Sir John Brigstocke. Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command, and Lady Brigstocke were the hosts at a dinner for the Order of St John held yesterday evening onboard HMS Victory. Portsmouth Naval Base. Lord Vestey, Lord Prior of

Professor and Mrs Anthony Mellows, Baroness Emerton, Sir Christopher and Lody Micelton, Sir and Airs Kenneth Ayres, Mr and Mrs George Borwell, Mr Graham Ellis Miss Karen Williams; Mr Stuort Grahert, Mr and Mrs Christopher Johnson, Mr Lewis Marun, Dr and Mrs Senneth Morallee; Mr and Mrs Ned Shertock.

the Order, was the guest of

honour. Among the guests

ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION

Sir Leonard Appleyard, former British ambassador to China, delivered the seventh in a series of English-Speaking Union lectures entitled "Furthering International Understanding" yesterday evening at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London SW1. He spoke on *China - Awakening Giant". Baroness Brigstocke, ESU Chairman. was in the chair.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Gnard at Horse Guards. Ham.

Characteristic relevant to provocation WHEN CONSIDERING the The prosecutioo argued that

defence of provocation to a charge of marder, for the purposes of the abjective reasooable man" test in section 3 of the Hnmicide Act 1957, a defendant's mental impairment was a characteristic which was relevant not only to the gravity of the provocation, hut also

The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal of Morgan James Smith against his conviction of murder, and substituted the conviction with one of manslaughter, but granted leave to the prosecution to appeal to the House of Lords.

At his trial the appellant de-

to loss of self-control.

nied murder, but admitted manslaughter on the basis of, inter alia, provocation. It was argued oo his behalf that there was evidence that be had suffered a severe depressive episode of substantial duration, and that that with its consequence of disinhibition, was a characteristic with which the reasonable man should be imbued for the purposes of section 3 of the Homicide Act 1957.

The judge directed the jury

that such a depressive episode was capable of being a characleristic with which the reasonable man was to be imbued but was relevant only to the gravity of the provocation and not to the reasonable man's loss of self control. The appellant was convicted of murder, and appealed against his conviction, on the ground, inter alia, that the 987, R v Humphreys [1995] judge had erred in his direction. 4 All ER 1008, and R v Thorn-Peter Thornton QC Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for the appellant: John Kelsey-Fry (Crosen Prosecution Service) for

the Crown.

WEDNESDAY LAW REPORT

15 JULY 1998

R v Smith

(Morgan James) Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Rose, Vice President, Mr Justice Potts and Mr Justice Douglas Brown) 10 July 1998

Mr Justice Potts said that it was submitted for the appellant that the objective standard of the "reasonable man" test in section 3 of the 1957 Act might be modified by imbuing the reasonable man with the cbaracteristics of the particular defendant, and that those characteristics were relevant not only to the gravity of the provocatioo but also to the reasonable man's potential loss of self-control, and that those propositions were supported by a line of binding authority io the Court of Appeal consistent with the decision of the House of Lords in DPP v Camplin [1978] 2 All ER 168.

ft was submitted that the interpretation of section 3 by the Court of Appeal in R v Ahluwalia [1992] 4 All ER 889, R v Dryden [1995] 4 All ER ton (No 2) [1996] 2 All ER 1023 had, in particular, favoured a flexible approach to the apparent rigidity of the reasonable man test.

the defence submission was contrary to the reasoning and decision in Complin, and that the effect of section 3 of the 1957 Act and the conclusions in Cnmplin were as stated by the majority of the Privy Council in Luc Thiet Than v R [1996] 2 All ER 1033, i.e. that mental characteristics might be taken into account as going to the gravity of the provocation but that the meotal infirmity of a defendant, impairing his power of self-control, should not be attributed to the reasonable man for the purposes of the

objective test. In the court's judgment, the decisions of the Court of Appeal cited were in accordance with, and a logical extension of, the decision in Cnmplin, and were binding on the court. No distioction could properly be drawn, when attributing the characteristics with which a reasonable man was deemed to be endowed for the purpose of the objective part of the test imposed by section 3 of the 1957 Act, between their relevance to the gravity of the provocation to a reasonable man and his reaction to it, and it followed that the submssions of the prosecution must fail.

The court granted leave to appeal to the House of Lords. baving certified the following question as involving a point of law of public importance: "Are characteristics other than age and sex. attributable to the reasonable man for the purposes of s 3 of the Homicide Act 1957, relevant not only to the gravity of the provocation to him but also to the standard of

self-control to be expected?" Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

ing success rather than a

"OF DOUBTFUL origin" is how the OED views the phrase the big cheese. Its prime suspect is the Persian and Urdu word Chiz, a thing, with Anglo-Indians describing anything firstrate as "the real chiz". Thackeray used cheese in

that sense around 1850, but the addition of big did not

occur until this century.

WORDS

WILLIAM HARTSTON big cheese, n.

The earliest citation is in a story by O. Henry written in 1910, but he used it in connection with a metaphor about a lean rat, and had Big Cheese mean-

successful person. When Raymond Chandler, in 1934, wrote, "So the big cheese give me the joh", tbere is nn doubt this was the real Chiz. Whatever the merits of an Urdu derivation, it seems likely that the similarity in snand between "cheese" and "chief" also played a part.

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Victim, killer, cause celebre and heroine

FOR MUCH of her life, Emma Humphreys was a victim, but she died a fighter. Even on the day she died, she was about to embark no another battle. She had taken on the English judicial system and beaten it when her conviction for murdering her violent, abusive partner was quashed by the Court of Appeal in 1995. She had served longer in prison than many murderers serve for a crime she had not committed. When she died, Emma was about to report a man who had raped her.

"It was so brave of her," says her friend, Julie Bindel, who, with the pressure group, Justice for Women. had campaigned for her release from prison. "We took her on holiday a few weeks ago and said: 'Do you want to do this?' She said that she

But on Saturday, Ms Bindel found Emma dead in the bed of the home she had made for herself in London. She was just 30 years old.

"What had happened was her spirit and enthusiasm had peaked, but her body had troughed." Ms Bindel says. "She had the will to live,

'She had the will to live but the prison system and the lack of care meant her body just couldn't survive'

but the prison system and the lack of care in her life meant her body just couldn't survive."

Emma Humphreys had already survived more than a body could be expected to bear. After an abusive childhood, she turned to prostitution in her early teens. Trevor Armitage. a drug addict twice her age, picked her up and subjected her to months of beatings, rapes and verbal abuse. One night, he promised his son and some male friends a "gang bang" and brought them back to the home they shared in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire. Emma, terrified, ran ber wrists.

Armitage's reaction when he found her was to laugh at her bloody arms and get undressed. As he tried to rape her, she plunged a knife into his chest.

Humphreys was convicted of murder and given the mandatory life sentence at Nottingham Crown Court in December 1985, but she believed the decision was wrong. However, it was only when she learned of the cases of other battered women, Kirinjit Ahluwalia and Sara Thurnton, did she see begin to understand why.

Emma Humphreys inspired victims of considered in mitigation. abuse after she was cleared of killing her violent boyfriend. Now she is dead, what will be her legacy? By Louise Jury

accept the label of murderer and served two years langer than the recommended tariff so she could challenge her original conviction. In 1995, she succeeded. Lord Justice Hirst, Mr Justice Kay and Mr Justice Cazalet ruled that the jury at Nottingham Crown Court had been misdirected by the trial judge. They reduced her conviction to nanslaughter on grounds of longterm provocation.

Emma Humphreys emerged from court to cheers outside. "It has been a long process, longer than anybody knows," she said. But the victory seemed bollow.

Social services had made no provision to belp her and only her friends in Justice for Women prevented an immediate return to the life she had led as a teenager.

"She had nn suppnrt, no counselling and was on massive doses of medication," Julie Bindel says. "Without us, she would have been back down King's Cross, working as a prostitute and overdosing nn heroin. She would have killed herself then."

Cocooned in a house with her supporters, they at least saved her from that. But she had problems adapting. "Sometimes I wonder whether it is all real and I become frightened it's just a dream. It's too hard to believe I really am free," she said in an interview a few days after her release.

Her first year outside was "bell". She ran wild, took pills to sleep. But then she found herself a home and began campaigning for other women in a similar plight. Her friends bought her a cat for her 30th hirthday last October. Only last Thursday, she wrote to the teacher who encouraged her to write while discuss finally Liling her life story.

"She had started to form a life, become a whole human being." Ms Bindel says. "People saw a great chasm of need there, but she gave a lot to other people. She was extremely bright. She was very, very funny, witty and sarcastic and cutting. I think the word 'chutzpah' was invented for Emma."

She wanted to go back to prison and counsel men who had abused women. Hnwever, her friends advised her against this. They felt that she was too fragile to take on such a task. "Men continued to sniff

violence as an issue of importance." She became determined not to out her vulnerability, almost to the

Althnogh Emma's weight had dropped to four or five stone, Julie Bindel believes it was not the anorexia that killed her. If food was placed in front of her, she did eat. "It was the medication that ultimately killed her." Ms Bindel blames the prison service for giving her medi-cine to keep her quiet. "But she was without question not planning to die. She was planning all kinds of things, but not dying. She was surrounded by love and had hopes."

After her death, her name lives no in the law. Emma Humphrey's case has been mentioned in just about every Court of Appeal case," Ms Bindel says. "She challenged the law, but, more than that, she gave women hope. What they saw was this woman who had lived a life of heli, but found the strength to fight." Letter after letter would arrive at the Justice for Women headquarters addressed for her. Many said simply Thank you".

Rohit Sanghvi, Emma's solicitor who also acted for Kiranjit Ahhrwalia and represented Sara Thornton at her first appeal, says her case was "enormously significant".

Before the 1990s, the law was based on a ruling by Mr Justice Devlin in 1949 that for manslaughter with a defence of provocation to succeed, there had to be a "sudden and temporary loss of self-control".

Mr Sanghvi says this was based "entirely on male experience, not female experience". In most circumstances, women have to wait until their batterer is weakened asleep or drunk, for example - before they are in a position to hit back. What the courts decided in Kiranjit Ahluwalia and Emma Humphreys' cases was that the "loss of self-conthey struck out - hut possibly some time after they were last provoked.

The effect of the decision is seen today throughout the courts, Mr Sanghvi says. "Domestic violence has been brought out into the open. Juries are no longer asked to poohpooh the idea of battering, hut are appreciative that battering can be one of the most horrendous crimes that is committed inside the home."

Manslaughter on grounds of provocation is unt a minor uffence, he points out. But the sentence is discretionary, unlike the mandatory life for murder. The provocation can be

Hannana Siddiqui, of the Southall Black Sisters campaigners, says the judiciary still has lessons to learn about the experience of battered women. "But Emma's case and Kiranjit and Sara Thornton's cases were instrumental in getting the ju-diciary, the public, the media and Parliament to think about domestic

Ms Siddiqui fears that recently there has been something of a judicial backlash. The Sisters were furious when the conviction of Zoora Shah, who murdered her abusive lover, failed to be overturned at the Court of Appeal earlier this year "But the public is still behind us," Ms Siddiqui says. There was a sense of public outrage in Zoora's case and ama was part of building that up."

Julie Bindel says Justice for Women intend to set up a prize in Emma's name. It will go to someone who fights violence against women. "Emma was a great campaigner. She never stopped wanting to change

things."

The group also intends to cam-

In most cases, women have to wait until their batterer is asleep before being able to hit back

paign for changes in the prison system. Intensely critical of the amount of medication they claim is prescribed in wnmen's prisons, Justice for Women want a greater emphasis on counselling. They also believe there should be an inquiry into why so little support was available to this badly damaged woman let loose into the world after serving more than 10 years inside. "Were it not for her friends, she would have died before now," Ms Bindel says.

Rohit Sanghvi says that Emma Humphreys never really had a chance. "She didn't have a chance She was faced with so many problems. She spent the whole of her adult life, from 17 to 27, in institutional custody and when she was eventually freed, she was given very little support. She was out at sea on her own.

But she was a "lovely individual" whn converted herself into being a fighter. "She had inner strength of courage to refuse to accept her guilt for murder," he says. "She left a legacy which women all over the country should be incredibly thankful and grateful for -how to be stubborn when you're right."



Richard Lewis

Would you walk through fire for your boss?



ire-walking could be the least of your worries as your colleagues fall out around you

Making your employees jump into rivers and walk over hot coals might seem like a good idea - when you're sitting in the boardroom. By Glenda Cooper

Emma Humphreys on the day of her release from prison

'IF THEY asked you to put your hand in the fire I suppose you'd dn it?" your mother always sighed. Well if you are a trainee at one of the higgest insurance companies, she

Seven trainees at Eagle Life Star were hospitalised after a day-lnng 'motivational course" at a hotel near the company's headquarters in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, After a day of problem-solving games. rainees removed their socks and shoes and were invited, for the final exercise, to walk on a bed of hot coals. Eagle Star Life said a "full and frank internal inquiry" was in

Ah, the joys of motivational weekends. What is it about management theorists that they think if you have not spent a weekend together learning how to get from one side of the room to the other without touching the floor, or energetically paintballing each other in the countryside, then your company will never make the FT-SE 100?

The idea behind such courses is that workers should learn more about each other, learn to trust their colleagues and become highly motivated. The reality can be that people end up injured, humiliated or falling out, and the majority of the bonding happens in the pub - just like a normal weekday.

But that doesn't stop people doing

programme Neville's Island showed. It followed four fictional businessmen from Salford nn a team-building weekend to discover hitherto hidden talents and skills.

Unfortunately, they get lost instead and maybem follows. However funny Neville's Island was, it was no match for real life. One of the most amusing events of last autumn was when William Hague took the Conservative party on a bonding weekend in Eastbourne. The MPs reacted with different

"We're looking for things that will help people discover how they can use their initiative."

Which, according to the chief of an electronics company who has been on a different firewalking course, is not always what happens. "Oh they say no one is compelled to walk across the coals but you're made to feel such a jerk in such a subtle way if you don't do it," he says. "It's all such a big show. They get people all hyped up and then they're left to go flat. They often

People end up injured, humiliated or falling out and the real bonding happens in the pub

degrees of enthusiasm - Nicholas have very good material, there are good techniques but in the end it's Stephen Dorrell went with a wardrobe of quite unmissable jumpers and Alan Clark was ecstatic, saying he wouldn't miss it for the world (until someone pointed out he had misheard the word bonding).

Debbie Isaacs, spokeswoman for Eagle Life, was keen to point out that the firewalking was the culmination of seven months of training and that in the past, they had found similar courses "highly motivational, team building, confidence huilding". In the past, however, they had restricted themselves to adventure courses.

all made into a show and I think that's prostitution."

Common techniques that are used on management courses also include hugging and kissing your neighbour in order to "break down comfort zones". Impact Development Training uses what it calls a "pamper pole" - a telegraph pole that you climb to the top of and then jump through a trapeze. This, it is said, is designed to develop support and trust.

Those whn use such services are fiercely protective of them. While conceding that the most recent outcome was less than ideal, Ms Isaacs said that other Eagle Life Star courses had been very successful in huilding up team spirit.

Those who have been on courses themselves are less sure. A manement consultant is still sulking about one course he went on some years ago. "You had to make something out of limited materials; paper, scissors etc, and see which would travel furthest," he said. "We made a paper boat but the people who won made a catapult. I suppose it's all very well, but there's no skill in the construction of catapults like there was with our boat. Everyone normaily ends up falling out anyway when someone starts an argument because you won't do it their way."

And one former bank worker remembers with gritted teeth another motivational course: "We had to prepare a presentation for the last day, to be given at 8am. It was basically made up of impossible tasks so that by 4am we were all hyper on blood sugar boosts or killing each other with tiredness. We finally got it sorted by about 6am, only to be told as we walked into the presentation room that there were no presentations - it was to monitor how we op-

erated under stress." So what happened? "Everyone ot drunk and shagged each other." Well at least some kind of bonding



(Such as, Julie Burchill, what advice would you have given Diana, Princess of Wales, what would you say to HELLO! and do you still read the NME?)

THE JOURNALIST and novelist Julie Burchill, 38, was born in Bristol. In 1976 she started working at the New Musical Express; her six books to date include the best-selling novel Ambition. This year she published her autobiography, I Knew I Was Right. Aged 20. Burchill married Tony Parsons, they had one son. She then left him for the journalist Cosmo Landesman, with whom she had another son. She left. Landesman for a well-publicised affair with Charlotte Raven, now editor of The Modern Review. Burchill lives in Brighton and her current boyfriend is Charlotte Raven's younger brother, Daniel

If you could have asked Diana, Princess of Wales one question before she died, what would you have asked her? Lucy Wedekind, Leicester

I would have asked her if Prince Charles was as appalling a sexual partner as that sort of man - selfpitying, middle-aged, conceited -

Which woman and man would you most like to have lunch with? C Smith, Canterbury, Kent

My hoyfriend's mother, Susan Raven, and my boyfriend, Daniel Raven. I know that these are somewhat sickly answers, but I cannot imagine preferring anyone's company to theirs. I have often had lunches with both of them individually which have started at 1pm and ended at 7.30 in the evening.

When did you last read the NME? What did you think of it? How did you vote in the last election Dave Howe, Hanwell, London They sent me one about six months ago when it went all NME Lite with staples and colour and print that doesn't come off on your hands.

I would no more huy it now than I would huy The Lady. That world doesn't exist any more. I thought it was tragic, but it's been like that ever since lan Penman left.

I have only ever voted once and that was for Michael Foot's Labour Party. For the rest, they have been a hunch of tossers, and that goes for Mrs Thatcher too. Yes, I was wrong.

Was everything really so much better when you were young? Callum Jacobs, London Not a bit of it. I'm sorry if I ever gave this impression. I loathed punk, particularly, and was extremely

glad when it finished.

What's the most embarrassing If Hello! wanted to visit your horne thing you have ever done?

Pauline Young, Preston, Lancs Being best friends with Toby Young. One night we cut our thumbs and mixed our blood. I could die to think of it now. The only thing I'm grateful for is that I never slept with him.

Which writer do you most admire. and which is your favourite film? Paul Laurence. Oxfordshire Patrick Hamilton is my favourite writer and Heavenly Creatures my favourite film.

What recent movies have you most enjoyed? John O'Byrne, Dublin Face Off and The Wedding Singer.

Do you ever feel intellectually intimidated? If so, by whom?

Dan Thornton, Birmingham By the hrilliant feminist writers Andrea Dworkin, Susan Faludi and Elizabeth Wurtzel; by my friend lan Penman, probably the world's greatest living writer, and hy Professor John Carey, a magnificent man, commendable bee-keeper and all-round lovely little thinker.

If it was death, or sex with David Mellor, which would you choose? Liz Corbett, Somerset Could I plump for sex with a dead David Mellor?

Is there anything that ever makes you feel humble? Simon Fletcher, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire

Everything about my dad: Charlotte Raven with her clothes off from memory); the sea; Graham Greene; trades unions, especially when leading strikes; people dying for what they believe in most of all.

If you could have offered Diana a single bit of advice, what would it have been? Do you think you'd have got on well together? Charlie Sandon, Poole

Of course my advice would have been "Don't do it." I think we'd have got on well together on a superficial level because I'd have made her laugh, and she needed a few more laughs in her life. Then I'd have had a few drinks and started going on about class war and she'd have got bored and made her excuses and gone to the gym.

What are your drugs of choice? Mick Yorke, North Yorkshire Zantac 75.

would you let them? Hannah Marshall, Cheshire Certainly not. The bloodstains on tine

ceiling would be hard to explain,

What makes you cry? Kate Hnrdwick, Glasgow Practically everything.

I once cried at an episode of Charlie's Angels involving someone being burnt. I tend not to cry over things which mean the most to rive. believing tears to be inhereritly frivolous.

Would it he fair to say that, at a certain time in your career, you have admired your reflection in the pond so much that you have occasionally fallen in? Liz Hemming, Ealing

Yes, in common with most microcelehrities of the Eighties, but what differentiated me from the others was the very large measure of selfdeprecation, rompiness and cynicism that characterised rny canonisation of myself. I was always making fun of myself, in a Dame Edna type of way. I always presumed I would have a drastic fall from grace and go looking for an-

I don't think that this can really be said of Nik Kershaw and Neil

Do you ever try to diet? If not, why not? If so, why? Sharon Burton, Norwich

No, I don't. When I was young I was the thinnest, prettiest girl in London and I wasn't particularly happy, especially from the age of 13 to the age of 24. My sex life in particular was pathetically underdeveloped until I put on weight and met my second husband.

As you lose your beauty, you tend to develop other skills, and I have never been happler with that side of things.

Also there is something horrihly man-pleasing about working! to "keep" your looks. It really seems to annoy men if you let yourself go. and I'm all for that.

Do you ever wear leggings? Esther Shaw, Clapham Is this a trick question?

What do you wear on the beach? Sylvia Giles, Bath

A black one-piece, but I insist that my boyfriend stands by at all times with a large tarpaulin lest small children run screaming.



Is there anything you miss about not living in London? Polly Smyth. Sussex Not one damn thing.

Who is the person who knows most of your secrets? Rick Hale, Croydon

My boyfriend. He's known everything about me for almost three years now and he still isn't out the door. That's what Do you wonder whether, if you had not nicked Charlotte Raven from Derek Draper, any of this cash-foraccess scandal would have happened?

Robert McGrath, Conterbury Had I not nicked Charlotte, Derek would probably have sold her to Mohammed Fayed by now.

Julie Burchill's biography 'Diana' is published by Weidenfeld & Nicol-

MICHAEL WINNER

Please send any questions you would like to put to film director Michael Winner to; You Ask The Questions, Features, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5DL; by fax on 017I-293 2182; or e-mail them to yourquestions@independent.co.uk by lunchtime on Friday 17 July.



THE IRRITATIONS OF MODERN LIFE

5. FUSSY EATERS BY VIRGINIA IRONSIDE, AGONY AUNT

RECENTLY I ordered a large piece of chocolate cake in a restaurant. "Naughty, naughty! said my friend, wagging a finger at me. On another occasion, when I ordered a salad, it was, "Oh, aren't you being good. I suppose I ought to have one too." Naughty? Good? Ought? I

was simply having what I happened to want; there was no morality in it at all. My friend's voice was the voice of the food freak, who has lost all sense of his or her personal dietary judgement and sees food in terms of what we ought and ought not to eat. Any apple with a little bit of brown on it has to be thrown away because it is "bad"; any lettuce full of greenfly is chucked rather than washed, picked over and served.

I have seen whole cheeses binned because they had developed mould around the edges. I always take a knife to the mould and eat the rest.

Recently I left some lamb in the fridge and found, by using the ancient art of sniffing, that it was on the turn. There were shiny greenish bits on the sides. I simply sliced them off, ran it under the tap, and grilled it. I could not help grinning wickedly as I served it to someone who normally threatens illness if the word "off" is mentioned and who, in the event, declared it "delicious" and asked for more.

Did he have a tummy-ache afterwards? Not a twinge. My mother used to scrape green pork under a tap, then grill it, and we all lived healthily

and happily to tell the tale. And anyway, a lot of food is improved if it is slightly "off". One of the sad things about beef is that it is unhung and therefore tasteless these days: and never was a pheasant put



on the table in grand country houses until the first maggot had appeared in its innards. Some of the best foods - cheese, sour cream - are "off". (I never understand why sour cream has a sell-by date; when mine develops mouldy spots I spoon them off and eat the rest.1

The result of today's preoccupation with "health" is that we are increasingly unhealthy. Recently it was revealed that the reason more children are developing asthma is because the air is getting cleaner, so any stray fumes that pass by result in dangerous choking fits.

When we lived through London fogs and wood smoke. there were far fewer cases, we had become immune.

As for food, you cannot go on holiday these days without someone developing tummy troubles. As a result of my robust eating habits I was the only one on a trip to Egypt who came out of the whole experience unscathed.

I refuse to be hullied by the food freaks. I use my eyes and my nose to dictate what is fresh, and if I am at all uncertain I cook it for a very, very long time. The result is that I can tell a fish that is off long before my friends who rely not on their noses hut the label.

If you have read this article you probably would not want to come to dinner with me. But then, most likely you would have to cry off anyway, with a tummy upset hrought on by a titchy hit of mould on a strawberry yoghurt.

Look at me, on the telly again

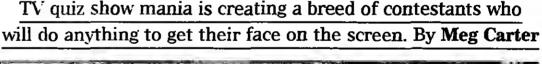
A PECULIAR case made it to Wandsworth County Court, south London, yesterday: that of Regent Productions as Trevor Montague. Regent, in case you did not know, is one of the UK's leading TV quiz show producers and maker of Channel 4's Fifteen-to-One. Mr Montague, meanwhile, is a self-styled quiz show king. At issue is the programme pro-

ducers' claim that Mr Montague hroke the quiz show's rules by taking part three times - once in heavy disguise, and under an assumed name. "Steve Romana". By all aiccounts, he was rather successful. He eventually won the grand final and prizes said to be worth more than £3,000 - prizes which Regent's owner and quiz show presenter, William Stewart, now wants returned.

Fifteen-to-One's rules stipulate. you see, that contestants can take part only once except under special circumstances. Mr Stewart, it seen is, is eager to dissuade others from following suit and claims that Montague eojoyed an unfair advantage through his deceit. Mr Montague, meanwhile, is astonished at all the firss. There was no intention to defrau 1." he told the Daily Mail. "I just enjoy taking part in television quizzes.

He is not joking. Montague is little short of being a quiz show addict. I'vot only has he cropped up three times on Stewart's show, he has also notched up appearances on 70-pilus TV and radio quizzes, including The Krypton Factor, Mastermind, Brain of Britain, Today's the Day... oh, and he won Winner Takes All. He is not alone. More cable, satellite and soon, digital TV channels, means more TV quiz shows. And more wannabe contestants.

Mark Nyman, producer of Channel 4's longest-running quiz, Countdown, reports a steady rise in interest among people wanting to take part. "Growing opportunities to participate in TV quiz shows lias certainly fuelled demand." he says. "In the 16 years since Countdouri's launch, we've featured 1,600 contestants. And applications continue





'King of quiz shows', Trevor Montague (centre), with 'Fifteen-To-One' presenter, William Stewart

The selection procedure is simple. Producers place an advertisement in the press and wait for applications to come in. Wannabe contestants are then interviewed for prime-time entertainment shows such as Blind Date and the Price is Right, to ensure they have a "bubbly" TV personality. "We look for people who are at home," Mr Nyman adds, "Roughly one in seven gets through."

Nineties quiz show oroducers do not like to use contestants more than once; it spoils the illusion that anyone at home could play. There is something odd about the same people empping up time and time again, one researcher confides: "It smacks of fixing, even if it's totally beyond the producers' control."

came unstuck when, after they had relied on a number of top-rating quiz shows to boost their ratings, evidence emerged that sponsors had rigged the shows to favour the contestants most popular with viewers. Today. programme-makers are still quick to distance themselves from any whiff primarih good at playing Countdown of impropriety or unfairness - most now carefully log all past contestants' details and studiously cross-refer-

ence these with every new applicant. In spite of this, a number of serial players regularly slip through the net, Elisabeth Jardine, seaside landlady and one-time "queen of quizzes", appeared on more than 16 separate programmes, winning a range of prizes including foreign bolidays, a hostess trolley and a trouser

Back in the Fifties. US networks press. She caught the bug 15 years ago, following an appearance on Bob Monkhouse's Family Fortunes.

Opinion is divided on what motivates these compulsive contestants. Undoubtedly, prizes can be a major draw. With no ceiling now on the value of winnings that TV quiz shows can offer, prizes are steadily increasing - one show even offered a brand-new house, to the value of £100,000. Industry rumours now circulating include plans for an ITV quiz promising a prize pot of f1m.

But, for many just as big a motivalion is proving you can win. Or, to put it another way: showing off. One quiz show addict, a bank manager's secretary with a point to prove, says: "I was thrown out of university after failing my exams and never

rated my general knowledge." Mrs Jardine, meanwhile, admitted in an interview with the The Sun to a fondness for "snuggling up with a good dictionary" of an evening. Oh, and a long-standing desire to be an actress.

For others there is the chance to widen your social circle. Pam Robinson, a civil servant whose TV quiz show appearances include Runway. Connections. Concentration and Win Lose or Draw, told an interviewer. "It's like a little club. You make friends with all sorts of people and everyone has great fun." And, of course, there's the "buzz".

Dave Smith, a notorious serial day-time TV talk show participant who has appeared on dozens of shows, including Kilroy and The Time ond the Place, observes: "I used to go along for the crack. Until I got bored, that is. Which was closely associated with programmemakers starting to scale down their hospitality. Five-star hotels and champagne? It's a thing of the past."

Back at Countdown, Nyman has his own theories. "They do it for the love of the show. The prizes we offer are 'fun' - goody bags with T-shirts, that sort of thing," he says. "People enjoy the TV experience. It can be a great buzz - equivalent to a pop group going on stage to do a gig. Perhaps, for some, going back to their normal lives once it's all over leaves them feeling flat. So they go out and do it all over again."

Which brings us back to Mr Montague. On Monday, he insisted that his addiction was never motivated by a desire for personal material gain. Glass decanters and a vase were among his allegedly ill-gotten gains. But, it seems, it was the taking part that really mattered.

Waste not your tears on him, however. Consider, instead, the fate of Mrs Mary Reeves of Calverton, Nottinghamshire - the eagle eyed TV viewer who blew his gaff. For it was she who recently saw Mr Montague's covert 1992 appearance repeated on a cable TV channel and correctly identified Steve Romana as Mr Montague. An addiction indeed.

Do the Wall Street shuffle

have sound business heads. While the media have heen harping on about the Rolling Stones' tax avoidance plans (including rescheduling their UK concerts for another tax year) and Elton John's costly separation from his long-time manager, John Reid, U2 - who have always been thought to be one of rock's most financially sensible acts - have been having a few problems.

Reportedly worth a combined 2350m, Bono, The Edge, Adam Clayton, Larry Mullen Jnr and manager Paul McGuinness (an equal partner in a five-way split) have kissed goodbye to at least £10m over the last few years. A rock management source was quoted in a Sunday newspaper as saying, "If you look back at their earnings over the past 20 years and ask what they have to show for being one of the world's leading rock bands, you have to conclude that they have nice houses and that is it."

Most of the money they lost was invested in Germany to build leisure centres, bowling alleys and laser shooting games facilities. Alas, after huying up prime sites, they subsequently discovered that war games with replica guns are banned by the German government.

Should U2 want to try and recover some of their financial outlay, here are some simple do's and don'ts to maximise income and ensure peace

Do... retain your own publishing rights. That's where the real money is. Just ask Paul McCartney, who is still trying to retrieve Northern Songs, the Beatles catalogue, from Michael Jackson. Still, Macca has made up for his disappointment by buying the copyrights of over 25,000 songs (including all the works of Ira Gershwin and Buddy Holly as well as "Happy Birthday"). His old Wings cohort, Denny Laine, made the un-fortunate mistake of selling his share in "Mull of Kintyre" to his for-

Do share royalties equally to avoid resentment from other band members. The Damned's Brian

James was clever enough to put his

Jethro Tull and Van Morrison have name to all the songs on the group's first album; after he was edged out, communal credits were decreed the norm. The former Smiths drummer, Mike Joyce, sued Morrissey and Johnny Marr for withdrawing royalties and won £1m. Ron Wood was only made a full member of the Rolling Stones ten years after he joined on a salary. Being to all intents and purposes Simply Red. Mick—come from future royalties. David Hucknall has kept the other hand

Do write or record soundtracks. Elton John made a small fortune be considering a similar move. from the Lion King. while Simple Minds' breakthrough bit, "Don't singer Ian Anderson has done well You (Forget About Me)" came from out of his salmon farms in Scotland The Breakfast Club brat-pack while Roger Daltrey favours troutmovie, after Bryan Ferry and Billy rearing in Sussex and Dorset.

ock stars seldom Idol had both turned down the chance to contribute.

Do licence your songs for soundtracks and commercials. In 1991, Mick Jones was only too happy to allow Levi's to use The Clash's "Should I Stay or Should I Go" for a TV ad. Mick Jagger and Keith Richards earned \$5m by lending "Start Me Up" to Microsoft for their Windows 95 awareness-building campaign.

Do hang on to your merchandisg. James's income from the sales of T-shirts kept them going before they signed to Mercury.

Do keep an eye on your affairs. Unlike Sting, who didn't notice that Keith Moore, his accountant, had appropriated £4.8m of his £90m fortune.

Do read your contract. Bros famously signed away 20 per cent of their gross income to their manager, Tom Watkins.

Do keep the taxman happy. Learn from the mistakes made by James Brown (in 1975, the God-father of Soul owed \$4.5m in back taxes), Sly Stone (in 1976, he filed for bankruptcy after failing to pay tax) and Pink Floyd (in 1979, the collapse of investment company Norton Warburg left them liable for huge back-taxes on money that had then vanished).

Do keep a diary of your comings and goings. Otherwise, all those tax-exile claims might just fail. In 1975, Rod Stewart nearly stepped on to British soil when changing planes at Heathrow. Realising it would have jeopardised his tax-exile status, he wisely stayed in the international departure lounge.

Do invest in property. Unless you're Mick Fleetwood. In the early Eighties, the Fleetwood Mac drummer bought American and Australian properties hut the mortgage repayments soon exceeded his monthly earnings. By 1984, he owed \$8m and declared himself bankrupt. The real estate dealings of Sheena Easton, however, help bring her in around £15m a year. She spends most of her time in the States these days, tending her Jaguar collection.

Do release the archive stuff fans clamour for Boh Dylan, The dusted off work in progress and assorted shelved tracks to beat the bootleggers.

Do an audit of your overseas and domestic royalties. Allen Klein impressed The Rolling Stones and The Beatles because he discovered overlooked monies from major record companies.

Do sell bonds against the in-Bowie and Rod Stewart have both increased their personal fortunes this way, and the Stones are said to

Do invest in fish. Jethro Tuli

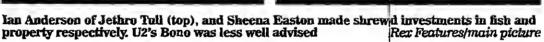
Taxmen, swindlers and parasites have always been the bane of rock musicians, and though U2 are

respected as celebs with business heads, even they foul up. Did no one tell them there were good reasons not to set up a chain of laser-gun games in Germany? Or that fish farms are what the sensible

star buys into these days? By Pierre Perrone







you know nothing about. In the late Seventies and early Eighties, Stig Anderson, the late Abba manager, had set up various companies to help reduce the group's 85 per cent tax burden. Since they were selling records behind the Iron Curtain, the group and Anderson started to accept payment in kind, anything from potatoes to crude oil. Pretty soon, they had a company called Pol Oil listed on the Stockholm stock market. Following a sudden drop in the average price of a barrel, the whole house of cards collapsed and an investigation into Abba's affairs was gunched. An out of court settlement with the Swedish Inland Revenue saved the group further hlushes. Don't form your own label. The rock 'n' roll road is littered with the

white elephants of vanity labels. John Lennon once told an interviewer: "If Apple goes on losing money at the same rate, all of us will be broke in six months." Others didn'tlearn. Even with Jimi Hendrix on board, The Who couldn't keep Track affoat. The Stones' manager, Andrew Loog Oldham, failed with Immediate and the Stones started their own famous tongue-decorated imprint on which their records (and only theirs) still appear. Elton John's Rocket, Gary Numan's Numa Records, Mick Fleetwood's Zoo, Paul Weller's Respond and Dave Stewart's Anxious have all floundered. Led Zeppelin's Swansong, Frank Sinatra's Reprise and Madonna's Maverick are the exceptions to the rule though they were as much an attempt by majors to placate their acts with new business ventures.

Don't get the family involved. Dad Buster Pearson notoriously mismanaged Five Star's money, while in 1989, after auditing his books, Billy Joel had to fire his manager and former brother-in-law, Frank Weber. Mind you, Ozzy Osbourne's wife, Sharon, has put him back on the straight and narrow.

Don't build your own recording studio, unless it's a small one in the basement of your house. With the cost of maintenance and upgrading gear, you'll lose out. Particularly, don't buy one in central London. Paul Weller had to sell off Solid Bond near Marble Arch.

future earnings to the label you're Sony and Pulp came to a similar agreement with Fire before signing

of your own pocket, unless it's a tax version of "The Last Time" under his write-off. Chris Rea lost £1.5m on copyright, And don't plagiarise a La Passione, one of the worst movies ever made. George Harrison was doing well out of HandMade Films (The Life Of Brian, Time Bandits) until his partner, Dennis with "My Sweet L O'Brien, handled affairs so badly that a million dollars. Harrison eventually won a judgment against him for £6.7m. Don't get divorced. Rod Stewart,

Don't... invest in something Mick Jagger, Mick Fleetwood and countless others are still paying

their ex-wives for it. Don't part with your manager He'll want a cut of future earnings. The Spice Girls had to give Simon Fuller £10m, and The Rolling Stones and The Beatles paid through the

nose to get rid of Allen Klein: Don't release too many dodgy compilations. They will affect the value of your catalogue later. New converts to the Rolling Stones and The Kinks never know which album

Don't buy cars, especially if you don't drive. The late Who drummer Keith Moon would crash anything (Rolls Royce, milk float, hovercraft) without even leaving his property. Mick Fleetwood couldn't resist collecting Jaguars and AC Cobras. Jason Kaye of Jamiroquai owns. four Ferraris, three BMWs, two Mercedes and one Aston Martin. Trouble is, his friends keep borrowing them and crashing them. At least Pink Floyd drummer Nick Mason is sensible enough to rent out his Ferrari 250GTO and the collectible BMWs, Porsches and Jaguars he also owns.

Don't smash up equipment you can't afford to replace. The Who took years to clear debts accumulated while demolishing guitars on stage. At T in the Park, Symposium wrecked £3000 worth of gear. Their fee for appearing there: £1800....

Don't go shopping. Elicon John must have spent millions on clothes, spectacles, fine art and records. Don't huy a football club. Elton

John is never going to make a penny out of his investment in Watford FC, and even the football-mad Rod Stewart stuck to supporting Scotland. The foolbardy Jim Kerr of Simple Minds could be involved in a bid to buy Celtic.

Don't buy horses. Ron Wood lost a packet on Acera, a racehorse be acquired with the spooker player, Jimmy White.

Don't adopt the lifestyle of a world megastar if you're a big fish in a small pond. Gary Glitter and Status Quo squandered millions trying to lead the life of Riley when they were only attractions in the UK.

Don't get involved in litigation. Just after the success of Born To Don't give a percentage of your Run, Bruce Springsteen's career was on hold for nearly a year as he trying to leave, unless it's the only tried to free himself from the clutchway out. Soul Asylum guaranteed es of Mike Appel. A settlement out points to A&M before moving onto of court did the trick in 1977.

Don't sample the wrong song. Allen Klein keeps the royalties from The Verve's "Bittersweet Sympho-Don't finance a bad movie out ny", which samples an instrumental major hit. UB 40 lost a lawsuit over "Don't Break My Heart", while George Harrison was judged to have copied The Chiffons' "He's So Fine" with "My Sweet Lord" and lost half

Don't do drugs. How do you think Mick Fleetwood lost track of all his money?

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The femme is not so fatale

There has to be more to the enduring popularity of Bizet's Carmen than that. What is the secret of her allure? The femme fatale factor is wearing a little thin. In these politically correct times, once-ardent feminists are now more likely to disown her. She is suddenly the free spirit who lost her way, a user: a selfish bitch. Who is the victim now? Carmen or Don Jose? And who is dancing to whose tune?

Tune? Tunes. A glorious suc-cession of them. And surely that is what Cormen is all about melodic allure. You can lose most of the dialogue, you can scrap the production, and the drama - such as it is - is carried in the melodies, the songs,

SEX, CIGARETTES and bull. the allure, the passion, the obsession. The secret of the world's favourite opera's success. Which is why the London Symphony Orchestra, under its principal conductor Sir Colin Davis, was wise to schedule not one but three concert performances. Which is why it still managed to sell out Barbican Hall on World Cup final night. Which is why Carmen is so truly international, why she travels so well.

"She", on this occasion, was Olga Borodina, a star of the Kirov Opera - a Carmen, if you like, from a cold climate. And my goodness, didn't we feel the chill. There was nothing, but nothing, of the heat and dust about her. Dressed to kill in black lace, sequined shoes and the "numbers". Therein lies a strategically placed rose, the half-voicings. And she took her The two do not often go to-

OPERA

required to extend their tech-

niques with "exotic" stylings:

CLASSICAL LONDON SYMPHONY

ORCHESTRA BARBICAN HALL only "travelling" this gypsy had done was between engagements. A class act. a wellhoned nightclub turn. Carmen

of the Rainbow Room. This is a terrific voice, make no mistake - a flexible, versatile voice well-schooled and well-practised in the highly specialised art of "Carmenising". Borodina had listened to, and worked hard at perfecting, the gamut of Carmenesque effects - the nasal French vowels, the croomy insinuations, the glottal stops, the smokey

Her Habanera and Seguidilla were showstoppers in quite the wrong sense. Artful in quite the wrong sense. Carmen is nothing if not elemental. Somewhere between Siberia and Seville, Borodina had mislaid

the character.

Which left that mummy's boy Don Jose with much of the credibility and all of the stage. Jose Cura seized it. His charisma is almost the equal of his hype but that is the way audiences like their tenors - and this one is swarthy of looks and voice. When Cura turns it on (and he did here, he really did), you can hear and see why he is in such demand. The baritonal colour of the voice is more than a match for the physique.

gether. But what I wouldn't stole the honours for singing give for a few extra colours, for some phrasal elegance, for real piano singing as opposed to just the occasional mezzo-voce. Not since Domingo have we really had it all.

But at least Cura represented a burst of Latin temperament in an evening dominated by Slavs. Andrea Dankova will be a better Micaela when she can, in every sense, extend her vocal reach (it is a little short, a little frayed, at the top: the aria was quite a stretch). Nokolay Dobrev (Escamillo) will not be a better anything until he learns to sing in tune. An inexplicable piece of casting this.

No, it was the Brits, Susan Gritton (a feisty Frasquita) and

French as it is spoke.

They and the LSO Chorus, whose assorted bands of gypsies, soldiers, and cigarette girls (yes, a few fag-ash Lills among the sopranos) were projected with exciting immediacy and amplitude.

But that is the big advantage of a concert performance. To hear Sir Colin Davis and the LSO really splash this colourful score across the Barbican platform was the greatest pleasure of the evening. The woodwind playing was a joy from start to finish. Those are the voices I shall remember. Bizet ruled, France won.

Carmen continues tonight and Friday. Box office 0171-382 7000

Head east for western promise

PLENTY OF Asian musicians are adept in Western classical idioms, but Western musicians rarely return the compliment. That may have to change as an emerging generation of Asian composers finds new modes of expression that, on the evi-dence of Guo Wenjing's double him much respect in the West, hill of one act operas at the Almeida, will extend the range not only of performers, but of economically. His chamber-

opera itself. In James MacDonald's well ducted by Brad Cohen, imagined stagings, both Night consists mostly of Western in-Banquet and Wolf Cub Vil-struments, the players often lage show a highly original sense of operatic possibility. Guo Wenjing has written lavish glissandi, plucked piano extensively for film and tele-strings, wordless vocal ulula-in contact with wants to devour

NIGHT BANQUET AND WOLF CUB VILLAGE sion is particularly rich and ALMEIDA THEATRE

For Night Banquet there receiving its world premiere), Guo Wenjing also includes a pipa (Chinese lute), played with wild virtuosity by Wu Man, but has apparently taught him how to delineate his dramas size orchestra, superbly con-

who is on stage for much of the opera. If the singers are not wholly at home with the microtonal inflections of Chinese singing, their characterisations are unfailingly intense. In Wolf Cub Village, Nigel Robson plays a madman convinced that everyone he comes

mean they are not out to get you, and this madman's dementia contains a great deal of good and common sense. Robson's performance is painful to watch, but it is impossible to take your eyes off it.

So, too, Geoffrey Moses's scholar-poet in Night Bonquet, who sets out, by means of prolonged debauchery, to disqualify himself from the corruption of political office. As Moses languishes in raddled dissolution, his favourite concubine (the excellent Yvonne Barciay) asks: "Did you need

17, the writing for the percus- you are paranoid does not bic comment on political life, both Eastern and Western.

The operas are sung in Chinese, and translations are Guo Wenjing guilty of occiincorporated not as surtitles that annoyingly take the eye away from the stage, but as part of the mise-en-scène; on a screen tucked hehind the poet's couch in Night Banquet, and in Jeff Sutton's atmospheric video installation that embodies the madman's Further performances of both turmoil in Wolf Cub Village.

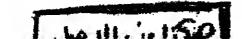
Such imaginative touches typify MacDonald's direct but subtle productions. A Western composer attempting what

tions and so on. With four per-cussionists in an ensemble of theorists know, the fact that ing Prime Minister?" An acer-this double bill pulls off so tri-umphantly might be accused of umphantly might be accused of the heinous crime of orientalism, and, who knows, maybe a Chinese perspective might find dentalism.

To these Western eyes. though, the results are witty, engrossing and wonderfully operative. There are not many new British operas you can say

productions at the Almeida Theatre, London N1. toniaht. Friday and Saturday, Booking: 0171-359 4404

NICK KIMBERLEY



Be afraid. Be very afraid

It's a decade since La Fura dels Baus last appeared in London. But they're not something you'd easily forget. By Judith Palmer

ne thousand people are berded, bewildered, into the pitch dark of an east London warebouse. Shuffling, excitable, curious, they edge their way through waves of smoke, deeper into the wall of pumping techno, and wait. An hour later they will emerge, separated from their friends, mudspattered, exhausted, exhilarated. The legendary Catalan performance troupe La Fura dels Baus is back

It has been 10 years since La Fura was last in London. Then, punters arrived at the ICA and were taken on special charabanes to the unregenerated Docklands. This time. we made our own way to Bromleyby-Bow, filing under the lorried roar of the Blackwall Tunnel approach road, via the Tesco Superstore car park, over the glistening, green-weeded creek to the closeted isol-

ation of Three Mills Island Studios. Follow the frock coats and mutton-chop whiskers as 180 Japanese actors in bustles pick their way over the cobbles. You are on the right path. Mike Leigh is filming his new Gilbert & Sullivan biopic here.

Weave past the oast-house, the mill, the gin distillery and the laboratory where they discovered cellulose, to Studio Five, where they filmed Kavanagh QC, the dictatorbaby car ad and the Cantona Eurostar commercial. Yes, that kind of studio. Not studio theatre. Aircraft hangar theatre.

Enjoy the journey; it is part of the experience. In any case, La Fura dels Baus is not so much about where you go as how you got there. "Feel first, Meaning comes later," says Fura boss Pera Tantina. "You experience conventional theatre with your eyes and mind. We want you to experience our shows with your stomach."

More than a million people worldwide have had their entrails manipulated by Tantina's company in the 20 years since it was founded. Three friends from the tiny village of Moia met six more performers in Barcelona and started putting together anarchic travelling street shows in 1979. Shows and venues got bigger - factories, cathedrals, stations - until, in 1992, Fura massed 1,000 performers to stage the opening ceremony of the Barcelona Olympics. Now, apparently, Mandelson wants them for the Dome.

the ferret from the small smelly stream in Moia. "It means nothing." says Tantina. "It is the sound and feel of the words that is important."

The same goes for the name of this production, Manes. "Nothing is fixed." says the director, Beth Escude i Galles. "The audience can choose their own meaning."

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And so into the dark, Bodies pushing bodies into the void. "Where are you?", "I'm bere. Who's that?", "What's that?" A glimmer of flame in the distance, and we edge in-



Tolling bells, wafts of frankincense, reeks of sulphur, showers of water, flour and sawdust turn the floor to slime. Thank heavens for sensible shoes

stinctively towards it. Naked people above us are burning something. Noise, smoke, disorientation. Heads turn. Something is happening on the ground over there. We can't see, so press closer towards the thumping sounds. Elbows, feet and other people's shoulders are in the way. Then "Wargh!" We can't get away fast enough. The crowd scatters. Huge, egg-shaped wooden barrels are tumbling towards us, and we run. Bare-bottomed medieval types

in grubby singlets howl and boller

through the crowd, with flaming firebrands in their hands. The crowd splits, then splits again as we flee from these mad men and women. Wooden tumbrils, metal lighting rigs and telegraph poles hurtle by us and at us from all directions. Madwoman One swings a chain round ber head like a Highland hammerthrower: Madwoman Two screams and jabs out ber torch, dripping hot

wax on to a madman's shaved bead. Tolling bells, wafts of frankincense, reeks of sulpbur, showers of

flour, of water, of sawdust, turn the her pregnant belly. Eggs fly, chickfloor to slime. Thank beavens for en heads are bitten off in an Ozzy Ossensible sboes. Lepers and almsseekers process in mock-ecclesiastical rapture, and bow readily we join their processions. Twitching bundles are laid on the floor, bandaged baby parcels writhing like giant maggots

Amid fiery explosions the troupe hauls poles into a circle, hanging aloft and juddering a convulsive at them." dance; a central, up-ended figure has

borne snarl, and the seething, of Aikido the company routinely primordial jabber of it all begins to lose momentum. Smash the shell and this hard-boiled performance supposed to empty their minds beturns out to be rather soft and yolky. "Soft, Far too soft," agrees Escude

and letting off a cacophony of wails. i Galles. "They've been on boliday hagen. Tomorrow we crack the whip

This first night has been tricky, ada blood-soaked chicken ripped from justing to the bigger space and safe. We need to change the aud-

tougher audience. What is more. there has been no time for the bour uses to build energy and focus itself before a show. The performers are fore they can empty the audience's.

Tantina says: "Fear is an important part of the show. You need to for three days since we left Copen- break away from the mind. In conventional theatre, you pay for a piece of seat. This is your property. No one can touch you there. You are

ience's sense of security, in order to open their minds and let them fee: |. "It is not important whether the audience like it. What is importar it is that they remember the sbow a year later. The most terrible thin g is to go to see something which

you've forgotten in a week." No chance of that.

Greenwich & Docklands Festiva L Three Mills Island Studios, Hancock Road, Bromley-by-Bow, London E.3.

Just blew in from the plaguey city...

must be pretty high up on the list of viving even a moment of idle conlyricist behind the relaunched Martin Guerre and writer of TakeAway, the acclaimed slice-of-Chinese life recently seen at the Lyric - has clearly thought long and hard about Eyam, the Derbyshire village near where be grew up. The village shut itself off from the outside world after being stricken by the plague of 1665, a misfortune that was later attributed to a rat flea in a parcel of cloth from London. The dramatic possibilities presented by this collective act of self-confinement must have seemed good enough to outweigh any besitations about taste in the writer's mind.

From afar, Eyam might even have could not, in theory, provide the basis for a musical, but bubonic plague as a rural idyll that we first see the village. Like expendable extras in a disthose that would have difficulty sur- aster movie, the inhabitants sing away as they garland lupins and harebells templation. Stepben Clark - the into intricate well-dresses to be offered up in time-bonoured thanks to the water that sustains them. Into this paradise creeps the oleaginous new rector, William Mompesson (earnest-eyed Peter Prentice) with wife and kids in tow. His congregation's immediate disdain soon ruptures into outright bostility when people start dropping like flies. A few cling to the superstition that this wolf-in-sbepherd's clothing has infected his flock and seek to scapegoat bim. The majority are deeply resistant to his swift insistence that they martyr themselves to the contagion rather than let it spread. The journey that both sides make, ON THE FRINGE

DOMINIC CAVENDISH

as the Grim Reaper goes about his work, from mutual distrust to a more Christian love and understanding, might have jolted an audience into engaging with the tragedy. But despite the best efforts of the director Clive Paget to create striking choreographed moments, a helping hand from Stephen Sondheim and a cast bursting with energy. Clark's libretto and Andrew Peggie's rock-inclined score restate the dilenimas in the blandest way for some two-and-three quarter bours.

As though afraid to produce the equivalent of "Auschwitz, the musical". the production avoids any overt de-



Ellen O'Grady as Joan in 'Eyam'

The lyrics equally prefer saccharine triteness to any ugliness. In what should be a key opening number, the first victim, the dressmaker, spends expiction of the plague - there is not a cruciating minutes singing the praisbubo, pustule or blemish in sight. es of his cloth, repeatedly wondering:

"Was that a moth?" By the time you get to the closing sentiments - "I never thought making plans for tomorrow would seem so exciting" - you will be

lucky not to feel nauseous. At the New End. there's another non-starter, although the idea behind The Curse of Tittikhamon is that it celebrates its own living deadness. Armed with a one-man special effects department (able Mark Barlow), a cast read through a Seventies spoof Hammer horror movie script by Michael Armstrong that never got made. The result is a nightmare hybrid - something between a live radio play and a student revue. The idea that a theatre should be the repository for such junk is the evening's only sick joke.

Eyam . Bridewell, EC4 (0171-936 3456); 'The Curse of Tittikhamon', New End, NW3 (0171-794 0022)

THE TIME: 1953 THE PLACE: Regent's Park Open Air Theatre, London THE ROLE: Hippolyta in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream

DEBUT

THE ACTOR: Eileen Atkins

MY FIRST real job on leaving drama school was with Robert Atkins at the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park. The first play I had ever been taken to see was King John at Regent's Park when I was 12, and I had written to him saying I had enjoyed the play very much, but thought the boy playing Prince Arthur was bad, and I would

have been better. He wrote back saying "well if you think you can do better, come and show me. I turned up at the theatre dressed up to look about 35 and knocked on his dressingroom door. He had this amazingly grand, plummy voice. He asked me who I was and when I explained, said: "I don't give jobs to sbop girls." I, in all innocence, replied: "I'm not a sbop girl, I'm a schoolgirl,"

He had another look at me and said: "All right, come and show me what you can do." So I went into the tent and did Prince Arthur's speech and he said: "Well, you're quite right, you are better than the boy we've got, but you're too young. If you take up the theatre, then let me know."

He obviously thought he'd never hear from me again. It just so happened that he gave me the Shakespeare prize at the Guildhall School of Music in my last year. He remembered me and invited me to come and work at Regent's Park. I was 19. I had a walk-on in Twelfth Night and Jacquenetta, the country wench in Love's



got a mention in the Evening Standard. I happened to overhear

Atkins discussing A Midsummer Night's Dream with the designer. There was another girl called Amanda Fox in the company and he said: "Well now, what are we going to do about Hippolyta? Amanda's got the body and no voice and Eileen's got the voice and no body." Later he told me be had decided to give me the part. I said: "What are you going to do about my body?" He replied: "We're going to build you up. We're going to give you a bosom!"

Unfortunately, we were rained off for the rest of the season so I never got to play the part, but it was an idyllic summer, which I always look back on fondly. I thought life was always going to be like this and that work was going to come easily, but it dried up and I never met anyone quite like Robert Atkins again. I didn't get regular work until I was 27. I had no idea then what

Eileen Atkins is starring in The Unexpected Man, 8pm, Duchess Theatre, WC2 ιPhone 0171-494 50751

hell it was going to be.

Pass notes in the game of love

"WE'RE IN a bedroom farce," remarks Natalie, the central character's wife, after some surprise extramarital sex. We are, however, a million miles

away from Ray Cooney. Despite this being a comedy of sexual to-ing and fro-ing between two warring architects, their lovers and their potential employers, the playwright Jean Marie Besset has more in common with Yasmina Reza, also French, the author of the smash-hit Art.

Although written several years earlier, What You Get and What You Expect simply is not the sort of philosophical comedy that is written here Besset may be writing about men jockeying for power positions, but he is also investigating power and male

Tense but patient Philip has been want in charge of the competition.

THEATRE

WHAT YOU GET AND WHAT YOU EXPECT LYRIC HAMMERSMITH LONDON

sbortlisted for a potentially lifechanging architectural competition to design the first monument on the moon. His rival, the unscrupulous, smooth-talking Robert, all Nehru collars and slicked-back hair, cunningly taunts him with tales of fancy backstage finagling on the dinner-party circuit. Robert knows how to play the

game, and that's what this is all about. Robert bas seduced Madame Kanter, the no-lapels, no-mercy civil ser-

by the discovery of his boyhood lover, status rule that could all too easily be Hector, in a key position to influence played on one note, but Turner brings the outcome of the competition

Besset translated Stoppard's Arcadia into French, so it is no surprise to discover dialogue-heavy scenes in which ideas and aphorisms spiral upwards. It could have been an arid evening of intellectual platespinning but, for the most part, the production is an intriguing success.

Tim Shortall's set is the last word in modish, minimalist chic, with its gleaming steel wall, button-backed double doors and two curved steel benches bedecked with crushed velvet cushions. The actors are similarly well groomed, notably Simon Dutton. relishing every moment as the repellent Robert. Jessica Turner is scintil-

Married Philip, meanwhile, is thrown lating as Madame Kanter. It is a highan astonishing range of light and shade to the part. Her hilariously withering disdain makes Sigourney Weaver in Working Girl look like a plavful kitten.

The self-conscious dialogue has a tendency to bounce back and forth too easily, leading you to the suspicion that director Thierry Harcourt has been seduced by the surface. Some of the allusive, brittle exchanges have more and the momentum of the phrasing layers than he uncovers, but there are moments of real depth.

The high point is the scene where Hector (tender Alex McSweeney) describes how, if you sat still in one place. everyone you have ever known would eventually pass by. Throughout the

tense speech he moves painfully and inexorably towards Philip, his lost love, who cannot bear to look at him, before slowly slipping his hand inside Philip's shirt. It is desperately sad and extremely erotic.

Much of the success of the evening is ascribable to the pin-sharp translation by Jeremy Sams. His trademark wit is there in abundance, but it never intrudes. Post-coital sexual puns about spreadsheets and things which "just mount up" are sewn into the fabric. means that this high-wire comedy manages to be both funny and provocative.

This review appeared in later editions of yesterday's paper DAVID BENEDICT

Bhutto denies kickback charges

BENAZIR BHUTTO, the former BY JASON BURKE prime minister of Pakistan, appeared in court yesterday to answer charges that she received more than £2m in kickbacks on a government contract for hundreds of Polish tractors.

Ms Bhutto, 46, denies the charges, which have been brought against her by a speset up by the present government in Pakistan. They claim that Ms Bhutto and her husband earned hundreds of millions of pounds from corruption before being dismissed from power 18 months ago. Three other corruption charges have been registered against Ms Bhutto by the investigators. She denies all of them.

In violent scenes outside the court, in the north-eastern city of Lahore, supporters of Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples Party. were baton-charged by police. Twenty-five people were injured, one seriously.

The demonstration was the first of a series that party leaders said were planned for the coming weeks.

Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, and his Cabinet have been widely criticised in Pakistan for mishandling the economy since the country's nuclear tests nearly two months ago.

Despite still retaining a massive majority in parliament, popular support for Mr Sharif has been severely eroded by recently introduced economic measures, which have hit the middle class and the poor.

In the past week strikes have gripped the country. In the north western city of Peshawar police used tear gas to disperse rickshaw drivers protesting against the price of fuel while in Karachi and the east

of the country thousands of retailers have shut their shops to demonstrate against the

planned extension of sales tax. Mr Sharif has always been seen as the champion of Pakistan's commercial classes and cial investigating commission to lose their support is a serious blow.

Speaking outside the court vesterday Ms Bhutto said that the time had come for a broadbased coalition administration. "The formation of a national government is the only solution to the problems facing Pakistan," she said.

At the weekend Ms Bhutto signalled to other opposition groups that she was interested in working together to oust Mr

Talking to reporters at Karachi airport on her arrival from Dubai on Sunday evening she offered to negotiate with the Muttahida Quami Movement, until recently allies of Mr Sharif and bitter enemies of the PPP

Ms Bhutto's husband Asif Ali Zardari also appeared before the Lahore court to answer separate charges relating to a se-ries of Swiss bank accounts he is alleged to have used to launder the proceeds of corruption and, according to government investigators, drug smuggling.

Earlier this month a Swiss judge formerly indicted Mr Zardari on money laundering charges and said he planned to indict Ms Bhutto shortly. Mr Zardari denies the charge.

In a bravura display of courtroom defiance yesterday Ms Bhutto repeatedly accused the judges of bias and said that all the charges against her were politically motivated. The case was adjourned until 20 August. The footage showed



A highlander of Yemen, where the number of guns is estimated to be more than three times the population of 16 million

ree nuns shot dead in Yemen

A GUNMAN who had fought in Bosnia shot dead three Catholic nuns from Mother Teresa's order in Yemen

"A man suspected to be an Islamic extremist opened fire on three nuns and killed them instantly," said an official from the governorate of Hodeida, 140 miles west of the Yemeni capital Sanaa

The official said the nuns, employed as nurses by a char-

ity, were killed on their way to work. Two of them were from India and one from the Philippines. Residents detained the gun-

man immediately after the incident as he tried to escape. They handed him over to the About a dozen nuns work in

the medical profession in Hodeida, a Red Sea port. "The interrogation of the killer, who used a Kalashnikov, is still lived in Bosnia since 1992, bad

going on... He confessed to acquired Bosnian nationality the crime and said he would go and had married a Bosnian to heaven," the official said. The suspect, Abdullah al-Nasheri, 22, from Sanaa, had

said during questioning that he

killed the three nurses because

they were "preaching Chris-

The official added that the suspect had fought in the Bosnian conflict as a volunteer in 1992. He said that Nasheri had

Many Muslims went to fight

alongside their brethren in the

Bosnian war. Residents said it was the first report of violence in Yemen against the nuns, who have en providing humanitarian help in the impoverished state

for several decades. More than 100 foreigners, including diplomats but mainly

tourists, have been kidnapped by disgrantled tribesmen in men since 1992. Most were

released unharmed. Guns, mainly Kalashnikov automatic rifles, are openly carried in Yemen, one of the poorest Arab countries.

Unofficial estimates put the number of firearms in the country at 50 million, more than three times the population of 16

Serbs claim victory at Kosovo road link

SERBIAN SECURITY forces announced yesterday they had captured a stronghold of Kosovo Albanian guerrillas in a campaign to regain control of main transport routes across the

Serbian state television broadcast what it described as footage of ex-Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) positions in La-pusnik, "a notorious terrorist base", which it said security forces had won back on Sunday.

trenches, ammunition, communication equipment, a heavy machine-gum, rebel uniforms and a makeshift surgery.

The Serb Media Centre in Pristina, the Kosovo regional capital, said the security forces had unblocked most of the Pristina-Pec road at the weekend, eliminating several dozen KLA barricades along the way.

If true, Lapusnik's capture would underline a shift in fortunes for the KLA, which has

since Fehruary only to get knocked back by a recent Serhian counter-offensive.

The KLA's momentum began to falter when it was repelled by superior Serbian firepower in an attempt to take its first big town, Orahovac, a week

The Serbian offensive has coincided with an increase in shooting incidents along Serbia's border with northern Albania, a backwater used by the KLA to seized up to half of Kosovo muster fighters and weapons.

The Albanian Interior Ministry said Serbian troops fired on the Albanian police building at the border checkpoint in Morini early on Sunday, then tried to shoot their way

through. In Tirana, the Albanian government denounced Serb "provocations" of Albanian forces along its border with Kosovo and called on Belgrade to respect its territorial integrity. Tirana said Serb artillery shells have landed on its

territory four times in just over a week, branding the incidents as attempts to engulf it in a wider war

In Brussels, it was announced that three senior officials from the European Union will go to Belgrade today for talks with the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, Zivadin Jovanovic, about the Kosovo crisis. A request to meet Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic remained unanswered.

- Reuters/AP

Tidal wave deaths hit 2,000

THREE TIDAL waves that devastated Papua New Guinea's north-west coast 10 days ago killed at least 2,000 and the death toll is likely to rise further. rescue officials said yesterday.

They also said another three miles of coastline around Malol would be added to an area of about 45 square miles already sealed off around Sissano lagoon because the area had become badly contaminated by

decomposing bodies.

The latest figure is an increase of about 500 known to have died when the three tidal waves, called tsunamis, hit on 17 July.

Police commissioner Peter Aigilo said 10,068 survivors had been identified and 1,131 people had been treated in hospitals since the waves of up to 10 metres swept over a string of small fishing villages around

Sissano lagoon. "The death toll so far is 2,000 and this figure is expected to increase as more bodies are recovered from the Sissano lagoon and the mangrove swamp," Mr Aigilo said in a statement dated 26 July hut released yesterday. Up to 3,000 people may have been killed.

authorities say. Many of the victims were children and education authorities were attempting to work out how many of the 1.139 students enrolled infour local schools and their 54 teachers survived.

The discovery by United States tracker dogs of another 52 bodies around Malol village near the lagoon at the weekend came as relief agencies tried to resettle thousands of home-

less people.

Ed Wolf, a dog handler, told
Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) radio that the four dogs had become disoriented and exhausted because they were not used to finding so many bodies in such a short space of time.

Rescuers said the bodies had begun to decompose under the tropical sun to an extent that retrieval was almost impossible. Crocodiles feasting on the remains had also become a threat to rescuers.

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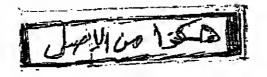
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The right shades for you

Sunglasses always look great. As long as you're a model, that is. So we took a selection of frames on to the street to find out how mere mortals looked through glasses darkly. By Melanie Rickey. Photographs by Donna Trope



Mrs Peretti in tortoise shells, £89, Gucci

4 4 1



The Hon Mrs Laura Brand in plastic aviators, £29, by Fabris Lane







Leo in "Dean", £225, Kirk Originals



Sylvia in black cat-eyes, £85, Valentin



ewis in frames, £150, Kirk Originals

Shirley Grubman in navy, £100, Björn Borg Leo in wire rims, £127, Calvin Klein





Mrs Brand in visor, £34.99, Storm



Perou in chrome, £64.99, Red or Dead



Ruth Williams in two-tones, £99, Fabris Lane

"right" pair of sunglasses is a lot more difficult than it looks. First you have to try on about 10 pairs to find which style best suits your face shape. Then colour and adaptability have to be taken into account. The last and, for some, most important factor is "fashionability".

What is in fashion for sunglasses in 1998 is as hard to work out as a cryptic crossword. Last year meo went crazy for sports shades from Adidas, Oakley and Nike, while women opted en masse for the oversized and glamorous Jackie O look.

Within just a year things have changed drastically. Chuck out those silver wraps - they're over and done. Jackie O? No.

This year sunglasses fashion is all about revisiting and revamping the heady days of Halston, disco fever, and Seventies chic as gold-rimmed aviators with a graduating dark-to-light-brown tint have begun to appear on fashionable faces: see Gucci, Police,

verybody knows that finding the Fabris Lane, Boots, Woolworths or Red or Dead But that is just for real fashion junkies. According to Angela Campbell, an optician with three stores in the Manchester area, the sunglasses-buying public simply will not accept all the trends and would rather pick from a more subtle blend of factors. "It's all down to the quality of the frames and lenses," she says. Indeed, with the proliferation of fashion designers who have recently put their name to sunglasses (Jil Sander and D&G being the newest arrivals), the look of the frames is just the starting-point.

The most frequently asked questions in shops that sell sunglasses are about protection from the sun's harmful rays. Fortunately, legislation introduced last month means that these queries are unnecessary. Now all sunglasses manufactured to European standards will say so: look for a little "CE", (which means "conformité européen") stamped oo to the frame. This "CE" means that the sunglasses have 100 per cent UVA and UVB protection til shades do not sport

do oot worry if you doo't find the "CE" just yet - the oew frames will take a while to filter into the shops. Back to fashion. Angela Campbell used to sell lots

of specialist sunglasses brands, soch as Ray Ban, but the designers have taken over. "They have definitely become the easiest way of buying into a designer label," she says. "Gucci shoes cost nearly £400 but the sunglasses cost just over £100." This summer belongs to the diffusion range D&G, she says.

They are different from everyooe else's; the shapes are fantastic and they suit everybody."

Sunglasses Hut chain and the opticians David Clulow agree. And how do they know? Because D&Gs practically sold out as soon as they were put on display. In fact they have probably defined the look of summer 1998. The shapes are sleek refined and oblong rather than rounded; while the frames

Boots stores across the UK, as well as designing ranges for Next, Warehouse and Oasis. It also has a hand-made range of 30 exclusive styles. It produces a "high summer" range (it has just hit the shops) which, says director Fiona Lane, is "what we feel is very hot and very now". And they are. The quality is there, the lock is there, but the best thing is the price, from £29. These are fashionable sunglasses that can be worn without guilt for just one season.

To celebrate the August release of the film 'Avengers' cK Calvin Klein eye wear has launched o pair of shades inspired by Emma Peel. Called 'Avenger', they are bug-shaped and have the cK logo stamped into the side arm in dark silver. We have five pairs in black with smoke-tinted lenses for the first five readers to send a postcard to: The Independent', Fash-

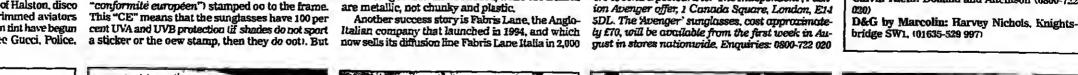
NAMES ON THE FRAMES

Police: Larger Boots (01923-249 491) Valentino: 01423-538 005 Gueci: 01423-538 005 Red or Dead: Vision Express, branches na-

tionwide (0800 73809) Fabris Lane: Boots and Harvey Nichols (0181-

Storm: Carnaby Street (0171-388 6656) Kirk Originals: 36 Eartham Street, WC2 10171-240 5055)

Björn Borg: David Clulow opticians, 185 Kings Road, SW3 (0181-864 4040) Calvin Klein: Dolland and Aitchison (0800-722





John Lewis in aviators, £79.90, Police



Mrs Peretti in perspex, £70, Red or Dead

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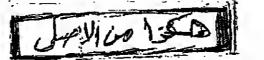


Ruth Williams, in aviators, £79,90, Police





Tom Trope in wraps, £97, D&G by Marcolin



It pays to draw up an annual report of your personal finances. By Andy Couchman

BUY SHARES in any company and you will soon become familiar with its annual report and accounts. The glossy piece of illusion, as fat-cat directors seek to find ever more inventive ways of disguising poor company performance. but essentially it should present a snapshot of its financial position, a comparison over time, and a strategy for the future.

These aims are just as valid for personal finances. With the ready availability of personal computers and the ease of use of modern spreadsheet pro-grammes, producing your own annual report and accounts can be fun, as well as an informative - or sobering - experience. In essence, a good report and accounts boils down to three key areas: profit and loss account, balance sheet and

The profit and loss account records incomings and outgoings over the year.

Start with your salary or wages. You can get this from your bank statements, or direct from your pay slips, which means you can also check to see that you have paid the right amounts of tax and National Insurance. Add any other income such as interest on savings, share dividends and so on. Do not forget other income -perhaps you received birthday money, or won money in the lottery, for example - but always make sure you record all in-

smaller chunks and, if you want to be really precise, can take a long time to work out. If you do, the surprise is always how much is spent on really nothing at all, or on "vices" such as tobacco, alcohol and chocolate.

More illuminating is the balance sheet. This shows the capital value of all your assets on a particular day. You can

■ Savings. How much you have and, if you have more than one account, how much interest each has paid out. You may have to refer to your passbook or get a statement from the bank or building society. ■ Investments. Shares, unit

trusts and single premium insurance boods can usually be valued from the prices pages of The Independent. The price at which you sell is called the bid price. If two prices are shown the lower (bid) price is the one to use. If you have older insurance bonds you may have to ask your insurer for a valuation. Watch out for investments where dividends are reinvested; the number of shares held will go up, so, again, ask to get the latest figures. ■ Life assurance. We want to

measure two things bere: the current sum assured, which shows how much you are worth oo your death, and any current surrender value. The sum assured will be shown on your policy schedule, but the cash or surrender value will have to be obtained from the insurer. come, either pre- or post-tax. Pensions. If you have a per-

harder because it comes in your insurer how much it is contents insurance cover is



worth, and its value wheo you die. If you are a member of a company scheme, your pension may only have an individual value if you transfer to another scheme. You can ask, though, what it would yield on death or on ill-bealth retirement, and how much pension you can expect on retirement. Property and other assets. Most of us have a rough idea of what our homes may be worth. or ask your estate agent for a free valuation. The value of your property is its market value, allowing up to 5 per cent for selling costs, less any out-

standing mortgage. Making a note of the value of all your other possessions can Measuring expenditure is sonal or executive pension, ask belp highlight whether your

adequate. While you are at it, check that your buildings insurance is not too low. There, the figure to insure for is the property's rehuilding cost, which may be higher or lower than its market valuation. Your mortgage lender or estate agent may be able to advise you

Once you know bow much or little -you are worth, you can produce your director's report: what you plan to do about it. You may find, for example, that you! have too little life assurance. that your pension is inadequate: or that you have too mucht money on deposit and not: enough in long-term invest ments. Now may be the time to get out of poorly performing; shares that you have held too

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long; or perhaps it is worth being speculative with money that you can afford to lose.

A professional financial adviser can help you to manage your affairs better, but the advantage of preparing your own report and accounts is that you may better understand the dynamics of your financial situation when discussing options with them. Updating every few months can be fun - especially if the value of your "company"

As a planning exercise, if it is good enough for our best managed companies, it should he good enough for you too, even if your own accounts are devoid of glossy pictures and the only fat cat is the family pet.

TRAVEL INSURANCE Club is offering improved cover for backpackers aged 18-35. Activities now covered as standard include trekking up to 21,000ft, pot-holing, skydiving, rock climbing up to 16,000ft, powerboat racing, high diving and heli-skiing. A six-month policy costs £95; a £12-month policy would cost £143. Call 0800 163518.

CAZENOVE FUND Management is launching a US Growth and Security fund, which aims to give investors the benefit of any further rise in UK share prices, while offering some protection in the event of a downturn. The new fund is a suh-fund of Cazenove International, an umbrella fund incorporated in Dublin. Minimum subscriptions are \$10,000 (£6,333). Management fees are 1 per cent in year one and 1.25 per cent thereafter. Dealing costs will be 0.2 per cent, with a further 0.5 per cent of new money being set aside for a "dilution levy", should investors cash in their funds suddenly. Call 0171-606 0708.

LEEDS & HOLBECK Building Society is increasing rates paid on its YoungSaver account to 7.85 per cent gross. The account is open to young people aged up to 21. with a minimum deposit of £50, Call 0800 0728738.

HEGARTY & CO: our article about interest earned on money deposited with solicitors (Your Money, 20 May) might have been understood to imply that the complaint against Hegarty & Co of Peterborough, which had been rejected by the Solicitors Complaints Bureau and the Legal Services Ombudsman, was a professional conduct complaint, In fact, the complaint did not relate to any claim of misconduct. A recent County Court claim by the same complainant for damages against Hegarty & Co also failed. We are happy to make these points clear.

The pennies that make golden years

JIM IS a freelance writer At 40, despite having been in his profession for several

years, he has no pension. A few years ago, Jim bought a property jointly with his partner Mary. They have had to invest significant amounts of money into the property in order to refurbish it. There is still some ongoing work. but that is now tailing off.

Jim has been fortunate in having had fairly continuous work throughout his career. However, he is aware that as a freelance person, this may not always be the case and he could face periods of time when he has low or nil earnings. As such, he is concerned about ongoing commitments that he could have to meet when times are fallow.

Jim knows that he needs to look at the question of his pension. He is aware that he has left it quite late, hut he has found the whole area just too daunting to face and it has been easy to put it off to another day. He now feels that he must grasp the nettle, however

Jim's story is not untypical. The fact that I regard pensions as fascinating is regarded as mildly perverse by my tolerant and indulgent clients. Many clients have put off dealing their pension longer than they should. It can get out of hand as they get more knotted up in their minds because they understand that the longer they leave it the more expensive it is

going to be. Part of the problem is undoubtedly the jargon that surrounds financial products, even though the literature is much better than it used to be. Partly it is that retirement conjures up such gloomy pictures. In our society we do not view old age positively.

Fortunately, Jim has some savings behind him -£10,000 in a building society. This is after making allowance for the tax be will have to pay and after the most urgent refurbishments on his property are taken care of.

We are planning for Jim's retirement over a 25year period, as he intends to continue writing until he

THE **FIXERS**



DAVIDSON

Many clients find the whole area of pensions just too daunting to face

is 65. As Jim has left it so late and has no pension planning at all, he will need to save a significant amount of his income. At the moment he is earning £40,000 a year and expects that he will continue to do so. We worked out that he will need to put 20 per cent of his income - that is, £8,000 a year - into his pension. Initially it was impossible for Jim to pay this amount from a cold start. Again, this is not an untypical situation. The point was to get something started, on an amount that could comfortably be afforded. Jim felt that he could commit £500 per month towards his pension. He also felt that he might be able to top it up with a

lump sum at the end of each tax year. We carefully chose a provider that would oot penalise Jim if he were to stop and start the payments - some are more accommodating than This is a good way of planning a pension for selfemployed people, as earnings are not fully

determined until their accounts have been prepared. Monthly amounts are good even for self-employed people with irregular commitments, as they encourage the important discipline of saving into a pension fund.

Jim is fortunate to have had a lump sum of £10,000. As this was spare money, not needed for any shortterm needs, we could

invest the amount fully into a pension. This had the effect of buying back a few years for him. What many people do not realise is that you are able to go back over previous tax years seven, in fact, including the current tax year - in order to pay back pension premiums. The effect of putting in a lump sum was quite significant, it meant that Jim's monthly commitments could be reduced by £75 per month and still get him to the same pension at age 65.

One sweetener to the rather bitter pill of the commitments of a pension is that everything that Jim puts into the pension is fully tax relievable. This meant that there was a significant reduction in his tax bill at the end of the first year of his contributions. The result was give Jim further encouragement to put sums in, as he knew he would be reducing the amount he paid the Inland

Revenue. Jim also noted that at some stage in the not-toodistant future he would have to look at the issue of income protection. Since he is a sole trader, there is no one else who can step in for him if he falls ill. Indeed the only thing that will prevent him from fulfilling his ambitions in the future is ill health.

We were able to put a waiver of premium on to the pension. This means that if Jim were to fall ill, his pension payments would be maintained until

he reached the age of 65. My advice is definitely not to put off the pension any longer than you need to, even if you do not startat the full, appropriate amount. Indeed it is very rare that clients start off paying into their pension at the premium level that they should. For instance, if Jim had started to save into his pension when be was 35 - that is, just five years before be did - to achieve the same results be would now be paying £170 less per month.

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Amanda Davidson is a partner at Holden Meehan. independent financial advisers, based in London (0171-692 1700)

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nearly £90 a year if he took out Female, married, non-smoking

Examples slawn include public really pay to shop around before quote from his mortgage lender, yourself how economical it is to are dependent on a number of Graham decided to phone choose Zurich Municipal for factors and in particular sure higher for males, smokers and older ages. Cover and premite ms



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A better class of saving

It can cost a small fortune to educate children, but forward planning will ensure they make it to class. Rachel Fixen begins a series on families and finance

HIGH FEES put private schools out of reach for most parents. Mark Grey, of the School Fees Trust Scheme, calculates that it will cost him £120,000 to send just one of his children to a relatively cheap day school. This figure is daunting, to say the least, especially for young parents already coping with the mushrooming cost of family life.

But choosing where a child is to be educated is one of life's most important decisions, so a way of financing school fees often has to be found. This has spawned a whole industry within financial services.

Despite the cost, the proportion of children at independent schools has been rising for the past decade and, and Mr Grey says that applications do oot appear to have been affected as yet by the demise of the assisted places scheme. "What you get from an independent school is the choice to select the right education for your child," he points out. "If they're artistic, you choose one that is atrong in art."

Around 80 per cent of people with children at private school manage to pay for fees out of current income. according to the School Fees Trust Scheme, which protects school fees should parents die or become terminally ill.

But even parents who cannot see their salaries stretching to that, could - with a hit of planning - still afford an independent school.

Starting early is key, says Dawn Slater, of the independent financial advisers Dawn Slater Associates. "Parents have to start as soon as possible to get as much cash accumulated as they can, because school fees are so unpredictable."

Fees per term at private day schools (ages 11-18) range from £1,300 to £3,200. according to the Indepeodent Schools Information Service. For boarding schools the fees are far higher. But school fees are rising much faster than retail price inflation or wage inflation, at around 6 per cent a year.

In principle, saving for school fees is the same as saving for anything else. You can use any one of a number of investment vehicles such as endowments, unit trusts and investment trusts.

But as fees are generally payable by the term or the year, you can maximise investment growth by



tying up the money for later school years for as long as possible.

How much would you need to save? Assuming school fees are £1,500 per term and will rise by 7 per cent a year, sending a child now one year old through school and university from age 11 to 20 would cost £139,719, Dawn Slater calculates. To fund this from capital, you would need £67,000 to invest now. Or you could fund it by investing around £450 a month in an endowment or unit trust facility.

Clearly, the sooper you start investing, the more time your money has to grow. But plenty can still be done, even if you have left it late.

home to raise additional borrowing and are often combined with investmeot schemes, such as endowneots, which enable you to

Parents who want the best for their children can end up paying a fortune for an education at a school like Eton

Keen competition between mortgage providers means that simply by remortgaging your home you can cut your interest payments.

To see a child through a senior school with fees of £1,500 per term would cost around £35,000, starting now. The monthly interest on the mortgage borrowing would be £7.45 per £1,000, at 8.95 per cent variable rate. Interest payments would increase as the mooey available under the mortgage facility was Draw-down mortgage schemes gradually drawn down. An endow-make the most of equity in your ment or PEP would usually run

aloogside this to pay off the mortgage borrowing, which would cost a 35-year-old man around £223.60 per month over 10 years.

Doo't think you're out of the wood when childreo leave school. There is always university. Starting from this autumn, university students whose parents or spouse earn more than £23,000 a year gross will have to contribute to fees, up to a maximum of £1,000 a year. Eveo if your child is eligible for a full grant and takes out a studeot loan, you may need to help with the cost of living away from home.

This year, a full grant topped up with a studeot loan adds up to about £4,370 for a student in London. But the National Union of Stu- 01372 377817: ISIS: 0171-630 8793/4

dents argues that people really need about £7,000 a year to keep their heads above water. Including fees, for a three-year course, you could expect to pay anything up to £24,000 in today's prices for each child in higher education.

If you had 16 years to save before your daughter started at university, putting away £88 a mooth in an investment vehicle that gave an average return of 9 per cent a year ight cover the cost. This assumes tuition and living costs adding up to about £5,000 a

Dawn Slater Associates: 01635 45325; School Fees Trust Scheme:

year in today's terms.

Arma against a sea of troubles

Managing agents must prepare for the new leasehold laws. By Karen Woolfson

volved in the debate over leasehold reform make a fascinating combination, Barry Gardiner, the MP for Brent North who spearheaded the influential all-parliamentary group on the subject, has fallen into a leadership role. He labels himself an incurable optimist, and there is no doubt that this quality is what drives

him to leap out and take action. While his researchers are busy combing through six box files jam-packed with letters from leaseholders. Mr Gardiner is out there taking on the likes of the Association of Res idential Managing Agents (Arma). Mr Gardiner was invited to speak

at Arma's recent annual general meeting, which is a big step, and an acknowledgement of necessary change by the association's executive secretary, David Hewett. Mr Gardiner may have felt like Daniel going into the lions' den, but his humour and conviction allowed him to scrape through at feeding-time.

He began: "The leasehold legislation in this country is about to change. I have oo doubt that is why you have invited me to address you. Much of this change will profoundly affect the way in which you do business. You may not like it, but you recognise it is better to prepare for change rather than ignore it."

He went on to state that Arma's members act almost entirely as the agents of the freeholder side of the divide, but the Government has clearly stated its overall objective is to provide leaseholders with the opportunity to reap the full benefits of owner-occupation" and to have control over the way their homes are managed. The message is that their future lies in acting as the agents of the leaseholder side of the divide."

Arma does have a code of conduct and members are also required to comply with the management code of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. Mr Hewett says the association will look at complaints where these codes are transgressed adding coocern would be shown "if a person was not being given access to underlying details"

If managing agents were tightly regulated and strictly licensed,

THE DIFFERENT personalities in- in the new laws and provide courses in communication skills. Mr Gardiner named some members who are allegedly not complying with the rules - apparently to diverse reactions. He said transgressions included not holding AGMs every year, high service charges and presenting accounts late or not at all. If Arma wanted to improve the image of managing agents, it will have to take atrong action if mem-bers are found not to be complying. Mr Gardiner stressed: "It is admirable to have a code of practice

> It is ultimately for Arma to check its members' compliance - or lack of it

but of course it must be backed up by effective sanctions against any member found to have broken it. It is ultimately for Arma to judge its own members' compliance or lack of it. But Arma must be aware that leaseholders and, I may add, politi-cians, will judge Arma by the rigor with which it enforces its code."

Arma's Mr Hewett understands that, with leasehold reform around the corner managing agents need to change, and is appareotly willing to hear the leaseholders' perspective. The question is how he will face the challenge, given the potential resistance from members.

Mr Gardiner told Arma that if it wants to be given the level of access and input to Government consultation which it desires, then "it should set up a disciplinary committee with powers to reprimand, fine and ultimately to expel members who fail to act properly in accordance with its code of practice"

A regulator with teeth is still urgently occded for this industry.

Karen Woolfson welcomes comments. Write to: Homebattles, c/o Nic Cicutti, The Independent', 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, E145DL. Karen regrets she is unable Arma could help educate members to reply personally to all letters

THE NOVICE INVESTOR

'I was a wallfower at the privatisation disco'

I AM sometimes green with envy when I think of a very clever friend of mine.

For years now; she has been playing the stock-market, and sne enjoys it. It has oot always been that

way for her. Her father died suddealy without having made a will. The family finances were a nightmare and her mother just "couldn't cope". They were forced to sell the

family home in the middle of a

recession and my frieod had to "unravel" her father's stocks and shares because of poorly kept records. She had, she says, to "learn very quickly". She slowly began to build her own portfolio. I watched as she bought a house that seemed far

too expensive and needed enormous amounts of work. By wheeling and dealing. she renovated it beautifully. She sold some shares when the

house oeeded a new roof. Then, when she wanted a new kitchen and conservatory: she invested in something that spe predicted would make her a quick killing. She was remortgaging long before it be-came fashionable, and when she had finished doing up the house, she let it for a staggering £850 per week for three

years to an American Bank. Meanwhile. I was paying my mortgage, pension and council tax. in Leona Helmsley's eyes, I would definitely have been one of the "little people".

I never had any spare money to invest in any of the share tips my friend so generously passed on. I did invest in a Pep that I later learned had high charges, but at least a reasonable performance rate.

I was too nervous to take out a bank loan, even for those great value privatisations.

I was the wallflower at the privatisation disco and I could see every day how much I was missing when I glanced through the financial pages. My jealousy was com-

After watching her friends reap the

time to earn the respect of her

ciebes into hanks. It had cost him about £4,000.

My cautious side still tells me

eager to try my luck.

pounded by the knowledge that another friend had made £12,000 carpetbagging on the conversion of the huilding so-Suddenly, however, I have 22,000 to spend, and I am still



Leona Helmsley looked down on the "little people"

that I should have made a will by now. Making a will was in fact one of the simplest things I have ever dooe. Contact a solicitor, and for a straightforward will it will cost you only about £75 plus Vat - the greatest bargain in the

field of law The books also said that I

rewards of wise investment.

Margaret St John decided it was

peers and start playing the markets

to check that everything in my financial life is in order. Recently, I weot to my local library to check out their "How to books on the stock-market. There are a huge number available, and they range from the humorous (Warren Buffet's

musings are good value! to the

downright dull

Reading the books did focus should be making the maximy mind. All the books told me mum possible contributions to my pension. I should have between three to six mooths' costs and living expenses in easily available saviogs accounts in case of emergencies. Everybody I spoke to said all

credit card dehts must he cleared before you even dream

of investing any spare cash. Another of the more sensible opbons was using my £2,000 hump sum to reduce my mortgage. Doing so would cut the cost of my moothly outgoings by up to £15 a month, or £180 a year, or £4,500 over the typical life of a

mortgage. In effect, the rate of interest earned" by doing so is the rate that would have been charged on that part of the loan - effectively tax free.

I should have adequate life insurance cover but, more important, I should have a cribical illness policy which would belp with mortgage payments and for arranging care for my three childreo in case of disaster.

Before investing in the stock-market, I should really look again at Tessas, Peps and National Savings products because of their tax advantages and the oeed for a diversified portfolio. Only then should I make out an

All this advice rather took the wind out of my sails. Without saying so, the ex-

perts are really warning us that the stock-market is a form of gambling - a luxury that most people cannot afford

We need to remember that shares are risky, but some are riskier than others. "Diversification" was the

word that kept cropping up, as having a number of shares in a selection of companies would reduce the risk of investing in one big loser. Investing for the long term was the only credible opbon for a sorall investor.

And timing was crucial, because we all want to huy low and sell high.

I had most things in order but not the critical illness policy, so I shall sort that out before talking to the analysts about my greatest fear of all. Is the stock-market too high? Have I missed the boat again?

This is the first of four articles by Margaret St John

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If you have regular bills to pay and a family to support means you can get on with your life knowing that, if the it's understandable if you've put the issue of life insurance. to the back of your mind. After all, cover can be costly, and you need money to hand.

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Paul Gosling examines the Government's vision for making the public sector more effective

The drive for self-improvement

HEALTH MINISTER Alan Milburn last month spelt out the Government's vision for a more effective public sector. Speaking at the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy conference, Mr Milburn said standards would be raised across the public services, using local government's Best Value programme as a model for improving services while reducing costs.

Performance indicators will be widely used to benchmark service and management standards. In the NHS there will be a Commission for Health Improvement that will assess oew clinical treatments to raise the standards of the worst performing bospital trusts to those of the best. In bousing there will be a new inspectorate to ensure that social landlords deliver good quality homes. For social services there is likely to be a new system of independent inspections, removing the day-to-day role from local authorities. It is clear that the Government's vision is of driving standards up by using performance indicators. backed by a strong system of central inspection and auditing.

This does, bowever, raise the question of who will carry out the audits, especially when local authorities, in particular, have already complained of being subject to so many inspection systems that it deflects them from delivering services. The Best Value pilots are under way, yet it is unclear who will verify the outcomes to ensure that councils achieve continuous improvement. The pilot councils themselves seem to have very different views on bow the system should be audited.

A White Paper on Best Value is expected in the autumn that should answer many of these questions. But it is likely that the Audit Commission will take a central role - the com-mission already oversees the auditing of councils and NHS trusts, as well as producing value for money surveys on local government and the NHS. The Local Government Association agreed last week to establish a management Intervention service to raise standards in failing councils as support for the Best Value programme.

Andrew Foster is cootroller of the Audit Commissioo. He makes It clear that the commission makes no assumptions about what role it might take under Best Value. "The Government clearly hasn't finally decided how to deal with this, and we are all awaiting the White Paper with interest to see how it plans to alloHOSPITAL

There are doubts that auditing of local authorities and NHS trusts will produce benefits for end-users - the public and patients

cate responsibility," he says. "There is a great deal still to learn about Best Value. We all need to be in learning mode about what government wants and how to fulfil it."

There has been concern that the aims behind Best Value are too subjective to be readily auditable. Mr Foster does not agree. "Every local authority is going to have to have a performance plan. I think that is quite possible to audit using the normal audit process. Then there oeeds to be a second stage examining bow well a council has done against their plan over a period of time. Different authorities might adopt different standards. The local auditor can then report on how well each authority has done, and would also report on whether a council has carried views of a fifth of services per the Social Services Inspectorate, out a major consultation process." Another central element of Best

Value will be the need for councils to adopt fundamental reviews of all services on a rolling basis, queshoning whether they are achieving value-for-money, whether the set service standards are appropriate and what standards the residents themselves want, whether the service might be delivered in a better way or try a different contractor, and, indeed, whether the service should be provided at all Mr Foster suggests that it is important for this process also to be audited, and raises the question whether it will be councils themselves that carry it out.

"Government is talking of re-

annum," explains Mr Foster, "It will need to be established in which order these are reviewed. There is the possibility of a new standards inspectorate for this."

But the risk is that local authorities will be faced with too many inspection and auditing processes. Mr Foster is sympathetic to this fear, and welcomes signs from the Government that it wants to see more cohesion between the public-sector inspectorates, with the commission playing a constructive co-ordinating role. The commission will take on the new role of bousing inspectorate, and it already operates joint inspection for Standards in Education) and with warns that changes are needed for runs services." To do this, be be-

which could be a model for joint auditing and inspection processes for other local government functions.

"I agree entirely that authorities must not be 'audited to death'." says Mr Foster. "It is important to reduce duplication. I think we can tiring together our Ofsted, SSI and housing inspectorate work, creating a learning organisation to apply lessons learnt from one arm to the next. We can bring to bear the analytic approach from our value for money studies to the inspection work, and be the only inspectorate that can do that." Mr Foster welcomes the proposal to extend Best programmes with Ofsted (the Office Value principles to the NHS, but as part of a management team that

lieves, would damage the credibili-ty of its external audit role. There are implications, under

Best Value, for some of the commission's existing practices. In particular it readily admits that some of its performance indicators will have to adjust to the new climate, with local authorities setting more of their own performance targets in consultation with local communities. "We must be prepared to change our system on PIS," says Mr Foster "If everybody else has to change for Best Value to work, then every rule that holds for them must apply to us."

The other element of the equation for achieving Best Value is also now becoming clear Ministers have been talking for some time about sending in management teams to impose improvements where councils themselves seem unable to bring it about. They privately talk of the 10 per cent or so of failing councils where management standards are just not rising. The political difficulty is bow to bring about change without being seen to be too beavy-handed with autonomous bodies.

Tony Blair hinted at the solution when he spoke recently of the need for the best local authorities to accept responsibility for the worst. And last week's conference of the Local Government Association agreed to set up a management improvement team, based on the management and training division of the Local Government Management Board It has already been agreed that the LGMB is to be disbanded and transferred to the LGA. One outstanding question is whether this new body. instead of the Audit Commission, should also audit Best Value.

Len Duvall, chairman of the LGMB review task force, says that the important principle is that local government achieves self-improvement, rather than be subject to yet another quango. He believes the LGA's new agency should focus on defining and highlighting best prac-tice. Often this will mean telling smaller councils about the successful innovations achieved by the larger authorities.

Local government has itself to deal with the small number of failing authorities and services, by inter-vening effectively and fairly," says Mr Davall."We must put our own house in order and not wait for inspectors of the Government to do it for us."

Make no mistake, Labour in office is not abandoning the Conservatives' public sector revolution. Instead it is just taking a slightly different route.

Nice day on the phone, dear?

A new transport policy could finally make teleworking worthwhile. By Paul Gosling

t is not only the transport industry that is nervously awaiting the publication of the integrated transport white paper in the next few days. So. too, is the telecommunications sector, keen to see inducements for staff to work from home, thereby reducing the need for commuting while increasing the use of phones, faxes and modems.

But British Telecom. in particular, has been promising the new dawn of more flexible working for so long that people have stopped looking for the sun to rise. For several years BT has predicted a shift from office working to teleworking from home, yet the transfer has been so slow as to be barely discernible. BT claims that the time for teleworking bas now arrived, bringing enormous advantages for a government wanting to take cars off the streets. and for employers keen to raise productivity and attract back into the workforce skilled people with do-

mestic responsibilities. Neil McLocklin is head of BTs workstyle consultancy group. The move to teleworking has begun, he insists. "We are talking about evolution, not revolution. It takes a long time to change the way we work, and society. We have done a lot of research - me are working with virtually every corporation. Some are now at early teleworking triat stage. others are thinking about it." BT believes that the range of benefits from teleworking is so wide that most large organisations will have to take it on board, at least for some of their staff, some of the time.

"On average in the UK, 18 days a year are lost to sickness for each worker," explains Mr McLocklin. *Often they are well enough to work, but not to go to work. Seven and a half working weeks are spent each year, on average, travelling to work. If staff just spent one day a week working from home there is an extra week for either the employer or the employee. Most people who have experienced it will say that when you work at bome you get a hell of a lot more done.



Will the transport White Paper improve matters for hard-pressed commuters? Geraint Lewis

Another factor is equal opportunities. "We are working with the AA at the moment, which has recruited disabled people to work from home," continues Mr McLocklin, "It

Regular briefings give staff a continued sense of corporate identity and social contact

can provide an opportunity for integration of working life and lifestyle one in six of the population are carers in some way." Employers such as law firms, which have invested heavily in high fee-carning staff, are heing persuaded of the benefits of flexible working.

industry is providing its own impetus for teleworking. Phone calls come in peaks and troughs, rather than an even flow. Having some staff working part-time or on call, based at home, reduces overheads. It is uneconomic for employees to come in to work for a couple of hours, but short stints of work from home are more acceptable.

Claire Evans is telesales manager for Prudential Direct, which has just extended its teleworking pilot scheme because of its initial success. "We might need a certain number of people to work unexpectedly, perhaps because of something that has happened." says Ms Evans. "If we did not have people on stand-by all the time it would take haif an hour to arrange, and by then the peak would have gone. On Boxing Day, we ran a service without opening the office by having people working at home."

Teleworking can allow organisations to achieve major savings in accommodation costs. Call centre operators can use smaller buildings to respond to average call flows, rather than cope with peak phone traffic. Surrey County Council has intro-

About 18 days a year are lost per worker. Often they are well enough to work, but not to go to work

duced teleworking as part of a plan to reduce the size of its property portfolio. When staff are in work they "hot-desk" – sharing desks instead of having their own.

All employers who have successfully introduced teleworking schemes agree that it is essential to adjust management styles to the vir-

tual environment. Not all staff will respond positively to working from home-greater self-discipline is necessary. BT recommends that rather than leave employees isolated, a system of regular briefings inside the office is maintained, giving staff a continued sense of corporate identity and social contact. Carers working from bome will still need to find alternative care arrangements while they are working. A call cen-tre worker holding a crying baby does not sound professional.

BT made detailed representations to the Government as part of the consultations on the transport white paper, proposing ways to boost teleworking. An important step, it believes, would be to reduce tax relief on car use, particularly where it is graduated onto a higher rate for a greater mileage. Instead. BT would like to see tax hreaks instituted for equipment installed at home to facilitate telework. Public bodies are also being asked to financially support local teleworking centres for use by people who cannot work from home, but who do not want to commute. The Government should also act as a good practice employer, says BT, by doing more to allow its own staff to work from home.

Teleworking expert Ursula Huws, associate fellow at the Institute for Employment Studies, says that it is not yet proven that the numbers of people working from home are increasing, though it seems to be true. In the last survey, in 1997, four percent of people were spending at least one day a week working at home on a computer.

But Ms Huws warns against the assumption that an increase in teleworking will necessarily reduce road traffic. "You can't get a rail season ticket for less than a week, so people working from home some of the time are more likely to travel by car." she points out, "Or you might work for a more distant employer, so when you do travel to work, you travel further. And there is evidence that the less people travel to work, the more they travel for non-work purposes."

LAST WEEK'S proposed tie-up between the London Stock Exchange and its rival in Frankfurt were a godsend for the FX boys. With England out of the World Cup, opportunities for foreignerhashing were limited. But the Frankfurt connection gave them lots of German jokes to ease their boredom with the continuing strength of the pound.

the more centralised management

There are particular challenges in

auditing Best Value in local govern-

ment. It is likely that the Government

will want management improve-

ment teams to go into failing local au-

thorities to turn them round,

imitating the approach taken with

failing schools. But should the local

auditor and the Audit Commission do

this, and should they operate the management teams? Mr Foster is

cautious about this: "Our general

view is that our most important

value is our independence. We have

never taken on executive responsi-

bility. We have never seen ourselves

systems of the health service.

As usual, out of hundreds of possibles only one or two quips really caught the imagination of the FX boys - if "imagination" is not too strong a word to use. So, for the past week - and probably for a week or two to come -Mariene has been taunted with cries of "So, d'ya think the Krauts'll get up really early in the morning to reserve all the desks? Ha-ha-

What's particularly interesting about all this is Marlene's reaction - which is that she hasn't one. Not that the FX boys would notice; they may be able to tell whether a woman is wearing stockings at 100 metres, but otherwise their perceptions are pretty blunt So while they are blissfully unaware that their xenophobic jokes aren't upsetting Marlene at all, I am curious as hell.
My theory, and Laura

agrees with me on this one, is that it has a fair hit to do with the semi-handsome 20-yearold gilts trader who joined us a few months back. Certainly he and Marlene go to massive efforts to avoid each other at work in the manner of people having office romances/affairs. Why they bother is beyond me, since in the normal course of events they'd bave no reason to speak to each other in the office anyway. In fact, by ostentatiously "avoiding" each other, they only succeed in drawing attention to themselves. But then, perhaps

that's what they want. "Probably." says Laura, "they're both feeling terribly chuffed. He's smug as hell because this high-flying thirtysomething is showing him the ways of the world And she's thrilled to meet someone who won't fall asleep



TRADER

at 10pm, or talk about mortgages, and knows there's no point trying to impress her so he'll just be himself."

"Hmm, yes," I say, recalling my last few dates and quite suddenly seeing the point of younger men. So it's good timing on his part that a few seconds after this, Patrique rings to invite me for a drink

I met him at his big sister's birthday bash last weekend, but resisted his Gallic charm on the grounds that, although bandsome as Adonis, he is six years younger than I am. Now, the age gap seems an irrelevance. So we fix up a date for that evening and I put the phone down feeling rather pleased and modern.

"That's nice," says Laura "You can celebrate France's World Cup win and Bastille

Day in one go."
"I don't think I can," I reply. "The FX boys would be calling me a traitor for weeks if I did anything to suggest I don't actually loathe the French. I'm sure that's why no one bet on France winning the footie."

The next morning, I didn't feel like celebrating at all. Laura spotted the glumness at once, of course, so it was only fair to tell her why.

"It was all going so well." I whimpered. "Then he says he wants to ask my advice, and I feel my heart sink. Anyway, it seems there's this woman he adores to distractioo - his words - but she doesn't notice him and what is he to do about it? He can't ask his sister because she won't approve. She's 35 or something ancient like that. So I'm depressed because I'm too young to be an older woman."

"Oh well," says Laura, consolingly. "One day..."

APPOINTMENTS/17

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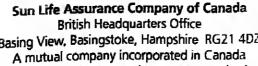
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SECRETARIAL

It's pretty demanding looking after every aspect of a high-powered boss's life, but being a super-PA also has its rewards. By Rachelle Thackray

* It is not easy looking after number one

high-profile men marry their secretaries. In an age of routine global travel, lightning communication and a long-hours working culture, PAs (the majority of wbom are still female) are often lance administrator team working connected by the working for several different bosses on a ments, defuse tense situations, years ago, after time out to bring sort out dining arrangements, buy birthday presents, and in some a variety of tasks ranging from the The age of the housewife may be in its death throes, but that of the multi-tasking, professional PA is well under way.

In the City, the male-female boss-secretary relationship is still much in evidence, but there has been a gradual shift towards treating secretaries as, if not decide, Like many PAs, she is exactly equals, then professionals, more than able to organise every aspect of their bosses' lives. Pippa Driscoll, who took a career break to bave children and now works for an executive at the Prudential. enjoys her one-to-one role and finds it liberating. The key to a thriving, working relationship is, sbe says, primarily to be found in a personality match. "My hoss is a dream to look after, but what's easy for one person is not necessarily easy for someone else. All the secretaries here can do the joh standing on their heads, but it boils down to bow you get on with your boss. Mine doesn't like to be fussed and mothered, and I'm fortunate that be's relatively well organised. I provide the back-up, and I have to be sensitive to the situation. In days gone by you'd be sitting typing letters all the time, but now it's much more administrative and you have to be thinking ahead."

She knew ber boss as a friend before she got the job, and mutual friends said she was mad to take

t is no wonder that so many it. "But we can switch off, and it's salary, so if they go bananas, you level, and if you want something, purely business. We also share the same sense of humour."

That's a quality that Francesmary Kay, another professional administrator, often needs. Unlike Ms Driscoll, Ms Kay runs a freeequivalent of an umbilical cord to one-to-one hasis. Since she their bosses: they fix appoint- initiated her client base three up a family, she has seen it all, with cases even look after the children. sublime to the ridiculous; some of the more unlikely have been cleaning out a fridge full of rotting food, ordering a thousand hankies from Harrods, and organising feng shui

for a fisb pond. The difference in her working style is that she can walk away from a demanding boss, should she so ultra-organised, hut she is also, ultimately, in control - and that

NOT FOR everyone the

worker to top-flight

executive organiser.

ascent from lowly clerical

Opinions differ on what sets

the super-PA apart from the

personality is a prerequisite.

A spokeswoman for one

agency that places PAs with

top directors says shorthand

is still an ideal skill, as it is

a more convenient and

personal way of working.

Nothing, she says, can

replace years of experience,

rest, but most are agreed

that an outgoing, calm,

flexible and efficient

just say 'I am not going to pick up this rattle you've thrown down in a tantrum'. I couldn't sit for 40 hours a week in the same chair and take it all week."

She admits that she does, however, get a buzz out of impossible-sounding challenges. "Some bosses are bullies and almost resent the fact that you don't get frightened. I do enjoy being stretched, although some can he unbelievable.

"They are like animals; if they know they ve got you on the run. they become monstrous. It's not a job for the faint-hearted; you have to be pretty confident. You wouldn't put an 18-year-old in these situations, because if you don't know what to do, you can panic. But if they trust you, they will let you do anything."

Pippa Driscoll finds that being a PA to a high-profile director has gives ber an extra confidence. "I its own perks within the organisam not dependent on them for a ation. "It's very nice to work at this

wbich develops skills in

when: juggling different

sensing what is needed and

tasks to varying deadlines;

urgent; and being a calming.

prioritising without being

Other attributes are

manner when dealing with

self-important associates -

as well as your hoss - and a

willingness to put in the

bours to get the job done.

The super-PA knows that

tbe back-up system must

told which task is more

reassuring influence.

confidence, a charming

WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A TOP PA

you can get it without having to stamp your foot. If you say who it's for, it gets done, although you still have to treat everybody as equals, and keep everybody happy."

Working for extremely wealthy clients makes life easier for Francesmary Kay, because everything is on tap. "You simply pick up the phone and say 'Help!". But it also demands a slightly different dynamic, she says. Tact is essential, as is an awareness that many are paying for a certain deference.

Once, she made the mistake of recommending a hotel which she helieved to he excellent, but was well below the standard of luxury to which her clients were accustomed. "t stupidly said: 'You'll love it', but [the problem was thal] I had heen able to afford to stay there."

The relationship between a boss and his PA may appear relaxed but any informality should always be on the boss's terms, warns Kay: "You are never quite sure when that guillotine is going to drop." Secondguessing a client's thoughts is an essectial skill to develop. Many of the upper-crust clients are even more fastidious - particularly about money - than others: they are the ones, says Ms Kay, who want to recycle their envelopes.

They can also be highly idiosyncratic. One client would not take on a certain personal assistant because she byed in Crouch End. rather than SW1: another tested potential assistants by bringing down his gun and extolling the joys of bloodsports.

She herself was even asked by a client for her hand in marriage, but declined because it would have meant giving up work, and sbe couldn't face being a lady who lunches. "I can't be bored - it would drive me completely demented. Nobody wants to work unless it's fun, and I get fulfilment from my work."



Freelance PA Francesmary Kay juggles calls - all part of her challenging job

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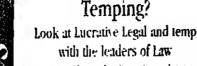
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The male secretaries who refuse to be typecast

"WHEN I tell people I'm a secretary they automatically assume that I'm either gay or terribly unambitious," says Andrew Hughes, who is per-sonal assistant to the chairman of a multinational company.

Hughes is neither, but is using the post as a stepping-stone to further his career "I'm learning far more about business by working day to day with a top businessman than I ever would from a graduate trainee scheme, where I might be one of 20 people struggling to get themselves noticed. I have access to high-level people and, while I may be the chairman's assistant now, I intend to have his job one day," he says.

While male secretaries are still are increasing. Office Angels, the recruitment company, says that 25 per cent of the temporary staff it deals with are men - an increase of 10 per cent in the last year.

Many of these men are attracted hy the new opportunities that secretarial work offers. The stereotype of the secretary as a blonde bimbo who spends all day flirting with her boss and filing her nails has all hut disappeared, and men are beginning to recognise that a secretarial post can be the first rung on a career ladder.

A spokeswoman for Office Angels says that being a secretary no longer means taking shorthand notes and typing them up: "A new breed of Men are muscling in on a traditionally female job, and making a pretty good go of it. By **Helen Jones**

hand to a range of different tasks is emerging," she says. "The role is changing and responsibilities now include overseeing information technology, training, marketing and personnel." The rewards can also be high - top personal assistants can earn up to £40,000 a year.

Paul Lewis is personal assistant to the director of the exhibition and festival unit of the Millennium Commission: "I have been doing the job since February and it involves a lot something of a ravity, their numbers of different responsibilities. Eventually I would like to see myself in charge of administration for a very large organisation," he says.

James Reed, chief executive of Reed Employment Services, says: "Originally, secretarial work was restricted to men, as mastering a keyboard was felt to be too technical for women. Forty years ago, that trend was reversed and it was seen as almost inevitably a female domain. But now, more and more men are joining them."

Mr Reed says that many of these are "new graduates looking to im-prove their IT skills and gain insight

into how industries work".

'execusecs" who can turn their in media. "I temped as a way of getting my foot in the door - to see how these companies work and the sort of opportunities they offered. I have now got a job in media sales, which is what I wanted."

Natalie Tapp, a recruitment con-sultant, and director of Marshall

'Many women don't put much value on the role of secretary and can't be bothered to improve their skills'

Tapp, says that men do tend to see secretarial work as a way of getting into an organisation and gaining some experience, and are sometimes prepared to put in more effort than their female counterparts.

The men we see are generally highly computer literate, with good speeds and a professional approach. But we're finding more and more women who place little value on the One such is Quill Chaney, who role of secretary, and can't be bothered to try to improve their skills." was temping, but wanted a career

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But while men are beginning to apply for secretarial posts, some employers are reluctant to employ them. Marshall Tapp, which deals primarily with the media industry, has carried out a survey of managing directors' attitudes to male secretaries. Most responses were positive and 70 per cent of those surveyed said that they would like to see more male secretaries in the workplace. However, others were hostile

"Although we work in a supposedly forward-looking industry, 5 per rather than a secretary. cent of resoondents said that they would not give a man's CV the same encounter any bostility when be consideration as a woman's," says Ms Tapp. She adds that she would expect the figure to be higher in more stuffy institutions such as banking and the City.

Ms Tapp says that, while some clients were positive about the idea in theory, in practice they still refuse to interview a man. "One said he wouldn't consider it because the idea was so odd, and another said he would assume that they were homosexual," she says.

As a result, Ms Tapp says that although her company encourages men to sign up, and even specifies

welcome, she would never send a man to an interview without checking with the client first. "When it comes to a final decision, clients will often employ a woman in preference to a man in order not to rock the boat," she say

Men who do find employment as secretaries say that they generally do not encounter any problems within the workplace, although people ontside the firm can be mistaken about their role.

"I did get some funny reactions," says Mr Lewis. "When I was a legal secretary, people would be put through to me on the phone and they would automatically assume that they were talking to a solicitor

Mr Chaney says that he did no was a secretary, and that some companies even preferred to employ a man. "I worked for two women at one advertising agency and the company said it really wanted a guy because it was felt that the two women might be too emotional - one of them was really stressed and was quite scatty."

He also adds that, "Men like to have women secretaries because they like to have a pretty face around and I think it works for women in the same way - they like a good-looking guy about the place.'

in its advertising that men are Andrew Hughes is n pseudonum

A great career move that led to Oblivion

I WORK FOR

KAREN HARVEY IS PA TO RALPH ARMOND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ALTON TOWERS THEME PARK

I ARRIVED here, aged 18, thanks to an agent who thought that I would be perfect for Alton Towers. She was who screamed the loudest. right. A family outing to the theme park had always been my idea of a dream day, and I felt as if I'd won the lottery when I was offered a job. But I confess that I lied when I said I loved the big rides. In fact, I was terrified of them. However, I soon became an adrevaline junkie after seeing just how safe the rides were.

I briefly worked in the marketing department, which was great fun and included a day spent trying to keep a bunch of journalists away from Princess Di, Harry and William. On another occasion, a group of spotty boys sitting round my table turned out to be Take That.

The marketing manager had the kind of temper which could lead to furniture damage and I really had to stand up for myself. But with his en-couragement I realised that I could make the change from being a dogs-body to a PA with authority and power I thought I would have to wait until I was 30 to become the managing director's PA because that was the rule at the time. But they decided to give me the position at the

age of 26, which meant a lot to me. Ralph is responsible for the entire business and the work is presmood he's in just by his expression. that in fact he finds my love life very

Ralph keeps a tight ship and is always on site checking to see that the products are just right, and I usually run alongside him. Mine isn't what one would call a normal job, but it

I run the staff social club and host charity events for local children. I find even minuting meetings is interesting when the topics under discussion include the final scenes in the Haunted House, or where we should put the Talking Trees and the 80-ft balls.

On the few occasions when I have to take complaint calls, I pride myself on being able to change someone's opinion of their day out at Alton Towers, because I feel very passionate about the place. I call it rescuing the magic

I met my husband Drew here. He's an on-site engineer, and was working in a hole underneath the log flume at the time. I liked the look of him but it took me 10 years to get him to ask him to marry me. He is the only person who can really understand the extent of my enthusiasm for Alton Towers; he knows that it's in my blood now.

I got so distracted around the time surised. He's one of those bosses of my wedding that Ralph said he who never shouts; you can tell what came close to firing me. But I think



Karen Harvey and her boss Ralph Armond 'road test'

Unlike the on-site staff, I don't need amusing. I don't think he would ever to have a permanent smile on my face, but I still need to have a sens of burnour to do my job well. Which is where the park's costume comedy characters, such as Aida the cleaning lady, come in handy.

But I find that the best stressbuster is a good scream. So at the end of a bad day I will jump on to one of the scarier rides - it's rather like having a good massage, and I reckon it keeps me looking young.

I watched Oblivion, our latest ride, being huilt and went pale at the very thought of falling down the 280ft vertical drop on to a black bole.

left of the skinny boy with the Reservoir Dogs T-shirt and

the curtains of hair hanging

either side of his eyebrows

who I thought was so won-

rolled around in the mud,

body piercings (guess where)

derful at 19.

want a straitlaced PA.

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I joined the company when I was a teenager and grew up with Alton Towers, rather like one of our managers who started work here at the age of 14 and is now on his 42nd year. But although the company has expanded by at least two-thirds since I arrived, I don't want to be promoted again. I reached my career pinnacle when I was given this job, and it's mine now. In fact. I would go out into the car park and fight for it if someone tried to take it away from me.

INTERVIEW BY KATIE SAMPSON

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 96 of the Insolvency Act 1966 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Chantrey Vellacots, Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London WCIB 2E to 20th July 1998 at 11.30 am for the pursons remained in Section the purposes messioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act. A list of the To the designative A rand the Company's creditors may be inspected, been of charge, at Russell Square, House, 10-12 Russell Square, London, MC16 SLF between 10.00

are and 4.00 per on the two business days preceding the date of the meet-ing stated above. Dated 7th July 1998

Sealed with an 'ex'

GHASTLY COINCIDENCES. I always knew that one day l would end up working for someone I knew. I did not guess that I would turn up at an office to find that Matthew, my faithless ex, had got there before me. I had always had a rule that I would turn down jobs where he worked; I did not allow for the fact that staff turnover in the City is almost as rapid as in journalism, and that he might have raoved on.

Two minutes at my desk, and we come face to face. Matthew looks like a rabbit in headlights. God knows what I look like; probably like someone who has just inhaled a mouthful of tea, which is what I am. It comes straight back out again, of course, mixed up with fag spume and the toothpaste off my wisdom teeth, all over my keyboard, screen and the miniature Cabbage Patch doll the regular secretary has marked her territory with.

Matthew says something like "Oob, Err. Ark, Urk, Ugh, Um", and I say thetween hacking noises! "H-h-h-h-hhi." And then we are both the same shade of furious scarlet and Matthew is backing away going "Gosh. Nice to see you, Erk." And I am going "Mmm. How long have you been here?" And he's going, "Six phones (good camouflage) gelled, side-parted and and I am finally free.



how are you... got to go... meeting... markets Tokyo... phone call..." If this had happened only

two months ago, I would have been in floods in the loo. It has been a long haul, avoiding places where I thought he might be, lying awake at night practising aversion therapy (replacing every pleasant memory with a picture of bim picking his nose, siumped in front of the telly for the fifth hour in a row, his lecherous father leering down my dress, his smug mug longer good enough for him), generally going through the emotional cramps necessary to expel an affection that is no longer returned. I am not in floods any more, but my stomach is bouncing around like a natterjack toad.

I put on my audio ear-

THE TEMP

and not washing our hair. weeks ago... um, new job... We were never going to conform, never turn in to our

And now look at us: I'm doing a lowly little job that pays pin money and Matthew has actually bought a pair of expandable metal armbands for rolling his striped shirtsleeves up with. His voice seems to have dropped an octave, and he has developed a booming laugh - HAR-harhar-har-haaaar - that in the old days would have made both of us turn our heads away and smirk, and says things like "Kip? Yar, I'll go telling me that I was no 20,000 at 350K", dealing in other people's hypothetical money to create more hypothetical money.

Matthew has put on a couple of stone and his skintone, after the blush has worn away, remains turtle-brown from the sun lamps at the company gym. His hair is

and watch him. There is little clipped close about the nape. Hanging over the back of his chair is a jacket whose label says the name of some tailor so recherché I have never beard of it. I have a feeling he may have bought some

We met at Glastonbury, nose-hair clippers. He ignores me all day. and spent the rest of the bandying phrases like "couple summer getting matching of bottles of fizz" and "World Cup final" with the insouciance of someone who is acutely aware that he is being observed. I, meanwhile, put on all my cheerful charm as I go about my duties, smiling at everyone and asking intelligent questions. And so we act the day away for each other's benefit.

Come six o'clock, he puts on his bright face, and stops at my desk on his way to Corney and Barrow. "You're looking well," he says again. "Good to see you."

"Thanks." I lie, "so do you." We must drop out for a drink later in the week." he says. "You can tell me all about what's happened in your life".

He lays a hand on my shoulder, and, as I look down, I realise that he has had a

manicure. A manicure. For the first time in six months, a weight lifts off my shoulders. Matthew has turned into a parody twit,

teat career that led .

NEW FILMS

MOJO (15) nor: Jez Butterworth Starring: Aidan Gillan, lan Hart

There is a moment in Absolute Beginners when the director. Julien Temple, pays homage to Rear Window by moving the camera across the exterior of a Soho building, dipping into the vignettes unfolding in each office. One of them shows Lionel Blair as a salacious music impresario grooming his junior Elvis and drooling over the boy's snake-hips. snari and quiff. That detail reminds us that behind every young blade in pop lurked pimps who made

has directed and adapted from his own play, reveals what we might have seen if Temple had manoeuvred his camera inside that office, down the stairs, KISS OR KILL (18)

Mojo is set in a mythologised 1950s Soho which laces grubby realism with rococo glamour, Insignificant Teddy boy Sidney (Andy Serkis) pops pills and dreams of America: his sidekick. Sweets (Martin Gwynn Jones), is a jittery boy, easily impressed; their boss. Ezra (Ricky Tomlinson), is a blancmange of a man who knows what's good for business.

and while it may linger in the shadow of Reservoir Dogs, it concentrates on a sexual tension which A perican crime movies generally shy away from. CW: Plaza, Warner Village West End

Starring: Billy Bob Thornton, Robert Duvall

This intelligent and unsettling drama won its writer-director. Billy Bob Thornton, an Oscar for best adapted screenplay two years ago. Thornton gives a performance of dazzling concentration as Carl, a mentally disabled man released after spending his life in an institution. Despite his past, he is welcomed into the home of a young boy whom

Although Thornton is free of the indulgences of most actors who are called upon to portray a leys, Virgin Fulham Rd. Warner Village West End bled character, the film is prone to sanitising

work dotted with aurprising performances. CW: Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket

TOUCH (15) Director: Paul Schrader

Starring: Skeet Ulrich, Christopher Walken Paul Schrader's adaptation of Elmore Leonard's novel turns a breezy satire into a rather heavy handed investigation into religious conviction. Skeet Ulrich is an accidental saint who finds himself bleeding from stigmata and bealing the disabled. A nice supporting cast give the film some bounce. CW: Plaza, UCI Whiteleus

Director: Bill Bennett

Starring: Frances O'Connor, Matt Day Australian road movie-cum-serial-killer drama about a couple of scam merchants, one of whom may be a murderer. Pretentious in some places, it manages to be agreeably nasty in others. CW: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

GURU IN SEVEN (18) Director: Shani Grewal

Starring: Saeed Jaffrey, Jacqualine Pearce A dismal, witless British comedy which comes on like an Asian version of Alfie. A young chancer enters into an agreement to sleep with seven women in seven days in order to attain guru status. CW: ABC Piccadilly, Virgin Trocadero

MAD CITY (15) Director: Costa Gevras

Starring: Dustin Hoffman, John Travolta

A simplistic work from the once inspiring film-maker Costa Gavras, who made Z. Dustin Hoffman is the weaselly reporter who chances upon a bostage situation in a museum, CW: ABC Baker Street, H'smith Virgin, UCI While-

(0171-837 6900) 9pm-3am

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS



Film Ryan Gilbey

A LOT OF PEOPLE were quite sniffy about The Man in the Iron Mask (left). Why? What more could you possible demand of a swashbuckler? The writer-director Randall Wallace, who scripted Broveheart, is foyal to Dumas; he's hooked on the sound of clinking cutlasses, and he throws logether Jeremy Irons, John Malkovich, Gabriel Byrne and Gerard Denardieu as the disbanded musketeers. In the central twin roles, Leonardo DiCaprio is far more fun than he was in Titonic, even when

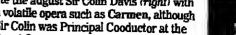
wearing an atrocious flowing wig which suggests Pre-Revolution Barbie. Prince Charles Cinema, London WC2 (0171-437 B1B1) 3.45pm Junk Mail is a darkly funny Norwegian thriller about a dangerously inquisitive postman. The film's grim but compassionate tone recalls Bertrand Blier's similarly playful Buffet Froid, and there are deliberate echoes of Diva too.

Leicester Phoenix Arts (0116-255 4854) today 6.15pm, tomorrow B.45pm

Pop Tim Perry

WHILE BLUES Brothers 2000 may have been a less-than-successful sequel. The Blues Brothers Band, who provided the music on the original 1980 film soundtrack, continue to brew up the best southern fried rhythms. Steve Cropper and Donald "Duck" Dunn, who played on many of the famous soul standards from Stax Records, are just two of the top players involved while Eddie "Knock On Wood" Floyd has been drafted in on vocals. Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 (0171-960 4201) today and tomorrow 7.30pm The Blue Note Club celebrates moving to larger premises with the Bigger

Blue Summer Festival, in aid of the Big Issue Foundation, which runs up to June 24. Tonight's attraction is a decks session from DeeJey Punk Roc whose wonderfully diverse Chicken Eye album frenetically mixed old-skool with fresh new beats. James Lavelle is the other big pull. The Blue Note, 1 Parkfield St. London, N1



Classical Duncan Hadfield

MAYBE ONE doesn't immediately associate the august Sir Colin Davis (right) with a volatile opera such as Carmen, although Sir Colin was Principal Cooductor at the Royal Opera. And, today as maestro of the LSO, he presides over a concert performance of Bizet's classic leaturing a blistering international line-up of soloists, led by Olga Borodina in the title role and fourth" tenor Jose Cura as Don Jose. Barbican Hall, London EC2 (0171-638 8891) 7pm

Following the world premiere of his opera. Doctor Ox's Experiment, cult maverick composer Gavin Bryar's Third String Quartet has its first performance this morning during a Cheltenham Festival event from the Lyric String Quartet.

Pitville Pump Room. Cheltenham (01242 227979) 11am

Literature Judith Palmer

CELEBRATE THE work of Irish wit, poet and playwright Brendan Behan iright at the Dublin Literary Late Night Cafe. Bill Maxwell presents cameo scenes from plays such as The Quare Fellow and The Hostage, accompanied by comic and rebel songs from traditional musicians. Behan's celebrated autobiography, The Borstol Boy, drew on his years spent in jail for republican activities, but perhaps the roaring boy's greater influence was the characters he met taking the gargle at pubs like The Shaky Man. So get some wallop to lubricate your tonsils, then it's: "Health and wealth to you. Land without rent to you. A child every year to you. Married or single, A slout heart, A wet beak. Slawncha!" Trafalgar Tavern, Park Row, Greenwich,

London SE10 (0181 853 4444) 8pm - 1am



CINEMA

WEST END

ARC BAKER STREET

Ryan Gilbey

(0171-935 9772) 83ket Sheet Mad City 1,15pm, 3 40pm, 6 05pm, 8 30pm Sliding Doors 1.20pm 3.40pm 8.40pm The Wedding Singer 6pm

ABC PANTON STREET (0171-930 06°1) O Ficcadilly Circus As Good As It Gets 2pm, 5pm 8pm The Big Lebowski 1 15pm 3 40pm 6 115pm 3 30pm Good Will Hunting 2 10pm 5 15pm L.A. Conlidential 8pm Washington Square 2 40pm : 40pm

ABC PICCADILLY

(0171-437 3561) → Piccadilly Circus Garu la Sèven 1 15pm 3 35pm, 5 55pm, 8.25pm Mrs Brown 1 20pm, 3 40pm, 6pm, 8 30pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

Square/Totlenham Court Fload Kiss Dr Kill 1 30pm, 3 55pm, 6 20pm, 8 45pm Live

(0171-439 4470) O Leicestei Square/Procadilly Circus Deconstruction Harry 1 10om 3.20om 6 10om 8 40om Kundun 1 10pm, 3 45pm, 8 20pm Merthe - Meel Frank, Oaniel & Laurence 3.10pm 7 10pm, 9 10pm My Son The Fanatic 1 10pm, 5 10pm Shell We Dence? 1 10pm 3.35pm. 6pm.

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT

Road City Of Angels 1 15pm, 3 55pm. 6 35pm, 9 15pm The Object Of My Affection 1 25pm. 4pm 6.35pm 9.20pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm, 4.20pm. 6.50pm, 9.25pm

(0171-382 7000) ← Moorgale/Barbican Love And Death On Long Island 8.40pm Screen Telk: Oavid Marnet 7pm Six Days, Seven Mights 6.15pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) Sloane Square Love And Death On Long Island 2 350m 4.40pm 6.50pm, 9pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

(0171-498 2242) ← Clapham Common Girts' Night 2 15pm, 4 30pm 7pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1.30pm, 4pm, 9pm Love And Death On Long Island 5 15pm 7 15pm Sling Blade 2pm, 6 30pm 9 15pm (01.11.427

Titanic 2 30pm 7 30pm

ELEPHANT & CASTLE

(0171-703 4968) ← Elephant S. Castle Deep Impact 3 15pm 5 45pm 8 20pm The Object Of My Affection 3 40pm 5.55pm, 8 30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 3 45pm, 6 2**0**pm, 8.40pm

The Apostle 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12.40pm, 3.10pm, 6pm 8.40pm Stiding Doors 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm, 3pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727-404's) ◆ Nothing Hill Gate Love And Death Dn Long Island 4 150m 6.35pm 8.55pm

(0870-9070718) O Pavenacouri Park/Hammersmith Grease (20th

Anniversary Edition) 2 30pm 5 20pm. 8 10pm Mad City 1pm 3 40pm 6 15pm 9pm Six Days. Seven Nights 11111 3.20pm. 6pm. 8 30pm The Wedding Singer 2om, 5.20pm 8pm

METRO (0171-437 0757) ← Piccadilly SCREEN ON THE GREEN

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) ◆ Knightsbridge Live Flesh 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) ← Nothing Hill Gate Six Days, Seven Nights 3pm 6pm. 8.30pm

(0181-715 4229) Camden Town City Of Angels 1. 45pm 6 05pm Kiss Or Kill 12 10pm 2 30pm, 4 45pm, 7pm, 9 15pm The Object Of My Affection 3,20pm, 3 45 pm Six Days, Seven Nights 12 15pm, 3 30pm, 6pm 8.35pm Sling Blade 1 45pm, 5.15pm, 8 30pm The Wedding Singer 12.05pm, 2 20pm, 4 35pm, 6 50pm, 9 15pm

(0181-315 4212) ← Precadilly Circus The Wedding Singer 1.30pm. 3 55pm. 6 25nm, 8 45nm

ODEON KENSINGTON (0181-315 4214) → High Street kensington City Of Angels 7pm, 9.40pm The Disject Of My Affection 6.45pm, 9.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 7pm.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (0181-315 4216) Marble Aich City **D1 Angels 12 15pm, 3.05pm, 5 55pm.** 8 45pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12 15pm, 3 05pm, 5 55pm. 8 45pm Mimic 12.25pm. 3.15pm. 6 05pm 8 50pm The Object Of My Atlection 12 25pm, 3 15pm, 6.05pm. 8 50pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1pm. 3 45pm 6 30pm, 9 15pm

ODEON MEZZANINE (0181-315 4215) ← Leicester Square As Good As It Gets 5 45pm, 8 25pm Lolita 5.40pm, 8.20pm Martha - Meel Frank, Oaniel & Laurence 6 50pm. 9 05pm **Point Blank** 6 30pm, 8 55pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (0181-315 4320) → Swiss Cottage The Big Lebowski 12 45pm 3 25pm, 6,05pm. 8 35pm City Of Angels 12 30pm, 3 15pm, 6pm 8 40pm Point Blank 1 30pm. 4pm. 6 35pm, 8 55pm Red Corner 12 30pm 3 10pm 5 50pm 8.25pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1pm, 3-30pm 6 (5pm), 8-45pm Sliding Doors 1 (5pm, 4pm) 6.25pm, 8.50pm

ODEON WEST END 10181-315 4221) tercester Square The Object Of My Affection 1pm 3 30pm, 6 05pm 8 40pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1 John 3 50pm, 6 25pm.

PHOENIX CINEMA (01€1, 444,6/89) ◆ East Finichley **Live** Fleshi, pin 4 15cm 6 30pm 8 45pm

(61.1 437 1.34) ← Precadilly Circus

Ocep Impact 3 10pm 5 50pm, 8 30pm Godzilla Thu Spin 9pm Jackie Brown 15ан 7-49рок**Мојо** 3-40рт 6-10рт, 3 16 m **Touch** 3 30pm 5pm 8 15pm

RENOIR (9)11 -327 (84)(1) ← Ruspell Square Love And Death On Long Island 2 35pm. 4 40pm 6 50pm 9pm The Taste OI Cherry 2 20pm 4 30pm 6 40pm 8 50pm

RIO CINEMA (0171-754 6677) BB Dalston Kingsland Love And Death Dn Long Island 4 30pm. 9 10pm The Taste Ot Cherry 2 15pm

RITZY CINEMA

(0171-737 2121,733 2229) BR/ O Storon Greese (20th Anniversary Edition) 2pm 4.25pm, 6.45pm 9.05pm Kurt & Courtney 1 40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm. 1) Hipm Live Flesh 7.05pm (* Short Magaz Momento: Love And Death On Long Island 2 10pm, 4 30pm, 6.50pm. 14 15 pm (- Short Icebergs) Oscar And Lucinda 2.05pm Sling Blade 3.15pm,

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET

And Death On Long Island 2 35pm 4 40pm in 50pm 9pm The Dhject Of My Affection 3 30pm & 20pm, 8 45pm

(8171-776 3570) **↔** Angel/Highbury &

SCREEN ON THE HILL BECKENHAM

 Bayswater City Of Angels 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Girls' Night 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9pm The Object Of My Attaction 20pm, 6.55pm, Night Only 1

VIRGIN CHELSEA

10870-9070710) ← Sloane Square The Object Of My Affection 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8 30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Sling Blade 12roon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer 2pm, 5.20pm, 8pm

[0870-9070711] ← South Kensington The Big Lebowski 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.30pm City Of Angels 1.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Kiss Or Kill 2pm, 4pm, 6.30pm,

5 55pm, 8 40pm VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-9070712) → Piccadilly Circus Kiss Or Kill Jpm. 3 30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Love And Death On Long Island 2pm, 4 15pm 6.30pm, 8 45pm Sting Blade

VIRGIN TROCADERO (0870-9070716) O Piccadilly Circus City Of Angels 1.10pm 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Dark City 12 30pm, 2.30pm, 4 45pm. 7pm 9 20pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1pm 3 30pm 6.10pm 9pm Guru In Seven 12 40pm, 3,20pm, 6pm, 8,50pm Mirric 12 50pm, 3 20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Soul Food 12.70pm, 3pm, 5.40pm,

WARNER VILLAGE WEST

(0171-437 4347) ← Leicestei Square The Big Lebowski 11.50pm, 2.50pm. 550pm, 9pm City OI Angels 12,40pm, 1,40pm, 3,20pm, 4,10pm, 6pm, 6,50pm, 8 40pm 9 30pm Kurt & Courtney 1 20pm, 3 40pm, 6 10pm, 8.25pm Mad City 1pm 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Mimic 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.05pm Mojo 12 10pm 2 30pm 4,50pm, 7pm, 9 30pm Scream 2 8 30pm Titanic 12noon, 4pm,

> CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

ACTON PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) & Park Royal City Of Angels 1 10pm, 3.50pm. 6 20pm 8 50pm Deep Impact 4 20pm, 6.50pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 6pm. 8.40pm Guru in Seven 2.10pm. 4 50pm, 7 20pm, 9 50pm Mad City 2,20pm, 5 05pm, 7,30pm, 10pm Missic 5 10pm 10.10pm The Object Of My Affection 2 40om 7.40pm Six Oays, Seven Nights 1,40pm, 4,10pm, 6,40cm, 9 10pm Sliding Doors 2pm, 9.25pm Soul Food 1.30pm, 4pm. 6 30pm. 9pm The Wedding Singer 1 50pm, 4 30pm, 7 10pm, 9.35pm

Deep Impact 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm. 8 30pm Med City 1.25pm, 3 50pm. 6 15pm 8.40pm Mimic 1.50pm, 4 10pm, 6 35pm 8 50pm Six Days. Seven Nights 2pm. 4.20pm. 6.40pm. 8 55pm Sliding Ooors 12.15pm. ?5pm 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer 12 20pm. 2.30pm.

ABC (0870 902 0412) BR: Beckenham Junction The Object Of My Affection 1,40pm, 6,20pm Six Days, Seven Mights 1 10pm, 3.45pm, 6 10pm, 8.45pm Sliding Doors 2.10pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Wedding Singer 4.15pm,

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR. Bexleyheath City Of Angels 1.50pm 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Deep Impact 2.15pm, 7.10pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12.20pm, 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm Jab Pyar Kissie Hota Hal Spm, 9pm Mad City 11.45am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm Major Saab 12noon, 6pm Mimic 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm The Object Of My Affection 9.50pm the Object of My Affection 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.45, 7.55pm, 10pm Six Oays, Seven Nights 12noon, 2 10pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm Sliding Doors 12noon, 4.45pm, 9.30pm The Wedding Singer 12.30pm, 2.45pm, 4.50pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm

BROMLEY
ODEON (0181-315 4211) BR Bromley North/Bromley South City Of Angels
1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm
Minic 4pm, 8.50pm The Object Of My
Minic 4pm, 8.50pm The Object Of My
Minic 4pm, 8.50pm The Object Of My Affectioa 1.35pm, 6.25pm Six Days, ns 1 05cm, 3.35cm, 6.10cm 8.45pm The Wedding Singer 1.45pm. 4.10pm, 6.35pm, 9pm

CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR. Calford. Six Days, Seven Nights 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 5.50pm,

CROYDON **CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030)** BR: Croydon West/East Deconstructing Harry 3.30pm Wild Man Slues 5.45nm

FAIRFIELD HALLS |0181-688 9291) BR. East Croydon L.A. Confidential SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West

Croydon. City OI Angels 6pm. 8pm Mimic 6.05pm, 8.05pm The Dipiect Of My Affection 6.05pm, 8.05pm

WARNER VILLAGE |0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon City Of Angels 1pm. 3.55pm. 6.25pm. 9pm Oeep Impact 4.20pm, 7pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1.25pm, 4.05pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Mad City 1.05pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm Mimic 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm The Object Of My Affection 12.40pm. 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Six Days, Seven Nights 12.55pm, 3.30pm. 6.15pm, 8.50pm Silding Ocors 2pm, 9.40cm The Wedding Singer 1.15pm. 3.40pm, 6 0pm, 8 30pm

DAGENHAM WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) & Dagenham Heathway City Of Angels 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Oeep Impact 4.20pm, 9.20pm Grease (20th niversary Edition) 1.40pm, 4.15pm. 6.50pm, 9.25pm Guru In 7 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Mad City 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Mimic 2.20pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm The Dbject Of My Affection 1pm, 3.30pm. Com. 8.30pm Bix Cays, Seven Nights 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Sliding Doors 1.50pm, 7.10pm The

FDGWARE BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) → Edowaie Achanak phone for times Dulhe Raia phone for times Gharwali Baharwali phone los times Jeb Pyar Kissie Hota Hal phone los delails Mimic 5.30pm, 8.30pm Pyaar Kiya To Darna Kya phone for details Sliding

Doors 5,35pm, 8 35pm

Wedding Singer 2 30pm, 4 50pm,

LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888 990) → Tollenham Hale City Of Angels 5 15pm, 8.10pm, 10.45pm Deep Impact 4,50pm, 7.35pm, 10.25pm DII To Pagal Hai Spm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.05pm Mad City 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Mimic 4.40pm, 7.15pm, 9.55pm The Object DI My Affection 5pm Six Days, Seven Nights 4.30pm, 7.25pm, 10.05pm Sliding Doors 3.40pm. 6.10pm, 8.40pm Soul Food 4.10pm. 7.05pm, 9.45pm Tilaoic 2.30pm,

8 10pm Wishmaster 10 15pm

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES

(0181-867 0555) 8R Feltham City Of Angels 11.20am 1 50pm, 4.20pm, Singer 12 50pm, 2.50pm, 5pm, 7.05pm, 9.30pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) © East Finchley/Finchley Central City 01 Angels 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.55pm, 9.30pm Deep Impact 2pm, 7pm Grease (20th Anoiversary Edition) 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Mad City 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Mimic 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 10pm The Object Of My Affection 2 05pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9 40pm SIx Days, Seven Nights 3.30pm, 6 10pm, 8.50pm Sliding Doors 4.40pm, 9.50pm The Wedding Singer

GOLDERS GREEN ABC (0181-455 1724) - Golders Green Six Days, Seven Nights 1.45pm,

Affection 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Six Ceys, Seven Nights 4pm,

6.30pm, 9pm HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-902 0413) → Belsize Park City Of Angels 2.10pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.30om.

SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) Harrow-on-the-Hil/Harrow and Wealdstone Major Saab 8.45pm Satya

8.50pm Deep Impact 2pm, 7pm Grease 9.40pm The Object Of My Affection 7.10pm, 9.30pm **The Wedding Singer** 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm

HOLLOWAY City Ol Angels 6 15pm, 8.45pm nic 630pm The Object Of My Affection 8.40pm Six Days, Seven Nights 6.35pm, 8.55pm

ODEON (0181-315 4223) Ganls Hill City Of Angels 2 40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Deep Impact 1pm, 5.55pm Mimic 2.50pm, 8.55pm Six Days, Sevee Nights 1 20pm, 3,40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Sliding Doors 3.25pm, 8.35pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 3 50pm, 6pm, 8 30pm

KINGSTON

ABC OPTIONS | 0870-902 0409) BR Kingston Mirais 2.30pm, 8 20pm The Object Of My Affection 5.40pm Six Days, Seven Nights 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm **Stiding Doors** 2.20pm, 6.10pm.

MUSWELL HILL

City Of Angels 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm The Direct Of My 6.20pm Touch 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm, Affection 1.40pm, 4pm. 5.15pm, 10.50pm The Wedding Singer 5.15pm. 8.35pm Six Days, Seveo Nights 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 6.55pm

Screen on the Hill, Virgin Haymarket

a point of sampling the goods they were flogging.

The new British film Mojo, which Jez Butterworth across the dancefloor and into the dim back rooms.

The film never entirely escapes its theatrical roots.

SLING BLADE (15)

Director: Billy Bob Thornton

's personality. That aside, this is a compelling

manner that is is both terrifying and entrancing. West End: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square

A drab, unconvincing and preachy drama about

partner-swapping. West End: Plaza.

THE BIG SWAP (18)

THE APOSTLE (12)

CITY OF ANGELS (12) Nicolas Cage plays an angel puzzling over whether named to exchange his divinity for domestic bliss with a. Fortal woman (Meg Ryan). West End: ABC Baker St. ABC Tottenham Court Rd. Barbican Screen, Clophom Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch. Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

DREAM WITH THE FISHES (18) Take a strictdal loser preparing to throw himself Re-release of John Boorman's chilling existential off a bridge. Add a junkie with a month to live and give them a few months on the road together before an inevitable tearful farewell. Serve with a sick-bag at the ready. Perhaps it's the realisation that Dream With the Fishes could so easily have been a nightmare that makes its success seem refreshing and

deserved. West End: Metro

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PRLS' NIGHT (15)
- Stameless tearjerker with Brenda Blethyn as a - cancer-suffering bingo winner who jets off to Las Vegas for a last-chance holiday with her sister-inlaw (Julie Walters). CW: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

Haymarket, Warner Village West End THE GIRL WITH BRAINS IN HER FEET (15) Jaumty take on the rites-of-passage genre, set m Leicester in the 1970s. The lively script is complimented by the sparkling performance of Joanna

Ward as the film's heroine. West End: Rio Cinema GREASE (20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION) (PG) Twentieth anniversary reissue of the nostalgic musical. What fun there can be had from a secviewing is mostly due to John Travolta's manic performance as the greased-up high-scool beartbreaker CW: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin,

Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

KURT & COURTNEY (15) Compulsive documentary investigating the death of Nirvana's Kurt Cobain and the conspiracy

theories surrounding it. CW: Ritzy Cinema. Screen on the Green, Warner Village West End THE LAST TIME I COMMITTED SUICIDE (15) A mannered and vacuous dip into the life of the Beat Neal Cassady, played by Thomas Jane. but the film just amounts to the same old Beat clich-

es. West End: ABC Piccadilly . . 'LIVE FLESH (18) · A novel by Ruth Rendell is the origin of Pedro Aimodovar's most accomplished film to date. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Gate Notting Hill, Curzon Minema, Odeon Camden Town, Richmond Filmhouse, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on

LOVE AND DEATH ON LONG ISLAND (15) Comedy, starring John Hurt and Jason Priestley, concerned with the relationship between art and life. Writer-director Richard Kwietniowski takes great care in tracing the areas where they overlap. CW: Barbican Screen, Chelsen Cinema, appham Picture House, Gate Notting Hill, Metro, Renoir, Richmond Filmhouse, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street,

Mira Sorvino is a doctor who combats a virus that's sweeping New York by developing a rival cockroach species to wipe out the original disease-carriers in this ingenious science fiction-horror fable.CW: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End Chelsea

GENERAL RELEASE MY SON THE FANATIC (15)

Hanif Kureshi establishes an opposition between Director Robert Duvall phrages into his role in a a Pakistani taxi driver and his son, who has his sights set on becoming a fundamentalist Muslim. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

> THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15) Romantic comedy in which Paul Rudd confounds Jennifer Aniston's dreams of weddings by turning out to be gay. CW: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End. Phoenix Cinema. Ritzy Cinema. Screen on

Baker Street, UCI Whiteleus, Viroin Chelsea PALMETTO (15)

West End POINT BLANK (18) thriller strarring Lee Marvin. West End: Gate

Harry Barber (Woody Harrelson) is the ex-coo

who gets mixed up with a pair of duplicitous

women. CW: Virgin Trocadero. Warner Village

Notting Hill, Ritzy Cinema. Screen on the Green

PONETTE (15) French tale of a four-year-old girl (Victoire Thivisol) whose mother dies in a car accident. Thivisol is superb, yet there's discomfort at watching one so young parade emotion this raw and primal. CW: Curzon Mayfair, Metro

Executive-produced by Hong Koog action

director John Woo, this is an attempt to launch the American career of his favourite star, Chow Yun-Fat. West End: Virgin Trocadero Politically inept war film set in Bosnia. Dennis Quaid

THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS | 18|

stars as a man who loses his family in a Paris bomb blast and avenges their deaths before becoming

a hired killer. West End: Virgin Haymarket SIX DAYS, SEVEN NIGHTS [12] Implausably contrived romantic comedy in which Harrison Ford plays a boozy pilot who crash-lands with a New York magazine editor (Anne Heche) on a remote island. CW: Barbican Screen. Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch,

Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

SOUL FOOD (15) A black versioo of Parenthood, with all the attendant moralising, sentimentality and studied eccentricity which that implies. West End: Clapham

Picture House, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Trocadero

Children's adventure about a young boy who's called upon to save the universe. What it lacks in budget it makes up for in imagination. West End: Hammersmith Virgin, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin

Spoof of the Merchant/Ivory movies from one of

the talents responsible for Leon the Pig Farmer. West End: Plaza, Virgin Chelsea

STIFF UPPER LIPS (15)

THE TASTE OF CHERRY (PG) The joint winner of last year's Palme d'Or has taken a year to get a release over here, but thanks to highly naturalistic performances, it's a hypnotic and moving experience. West End: Renoir

Tale of a traumatised Vietnam veteran oo his

return home to Texas, adapted from James

Duff's Broadway play. Homefront. CW: Ploza THE WEDDING SINGER (12)

THE WAR AT HOME (15)

Unashamedly dumb but winning comedy aboul s romantic wedding singer (Adam Sandler) who falls for a waitress (Drew Barrymore). West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road. Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin. Odeon Camden Town. Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN

ODEON HAYMARKET

Flesh 1 10pm 3 35pm, 6pm, 8 25pm ABC SWISS CENTRE

8 40om Stiff Upper Lips 6 20pm

ROAD (0171,636,6148) - Totlenham Court

BARBICAN SCREEN

CURZON MAYFAIR 10171-369 17201 Green Park

CORONET

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0171-437-1234) O Leicester Square

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN

Circus/Leicester Square Love And Death On Long Island 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm - Hilmylen Kurt & Courtney 3pm 5pm Ponette 2pm 4 15pm, 6:30pm, 8 45pm / /pm //pm

(0171-435 3366) → Belaize Park Love And Oeath On Long Island 3 30pm, 6 30pm 8 50pm (~ Short Toy Boys) UCI WHITELEYS

Affection 2pm. 6.55pm Six Days, Seven Nights 3 45pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Sling Blade 3pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm Sliding Doors 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm Touch 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm The Wedding Singer 4.30pm, 6.55pm, 9.35

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD

8 50pm Mad City 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Sliding Doors 2.30pm,

2pm, 5pm, 8pm

8pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 5.20pm, 8.50pm

4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

BARNET

ODEON (0161-315 4210) High Barnet City Of Angels 1,10pm, 3,40pm, 6 topm 8.35pm Mad City 1.05pm. 3 35pm 6 05pm, 8.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm. 8 45pm Sliding Opers 1.55pm, 4.20pm, 6 40pm 8 55pm The Wedding Singer 1,45pm, 4 15pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm

6.55pm, 9 25pm Deep Impact 11 25am, o.55pm, 9 25pm Deep Impact 11 25am, 1.55pm, 4 30pm, 6 50pm, 9.10pm Dulhe Raje 2.35pm, 9 50pm Gharwall Baharwali 1pm, 3 40pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Gbulam 11am, 2.20pm, 6pm Grease (20th Anniversary Editioo) 11.30am, 2pm, 4 25pm, 6 50pm, 9.15pm Guru In 7 12 15pm, 2.45pm, 5 15pm, 7.45pm, 10pm Jab Pyar Kissie Hota Hai 11 15am, 6.05pm Mad City 11.55am, 2.25pm, 4.50pm Mad Cry 11.55am, 2.25pm, 4.50pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm Major Saab 11.45am, 3pm, 6.20pm, 9.35pm Mimic 12.40pm, 2.55pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.55pm The Dbject DI My Affection 11.50am, 2.15pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Satya 9pm Six Oeys, Seven Nights 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 12.10pm, 12.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 12.10pm, 12. 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Slidiog Ocors 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.55pm, 7pm, 9.35pm The Wedding

3.20pm, 6pm. 8.30pm

GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) 8R. Greenwich City Of Angels 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Object Of My

3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.25pm Sliding Doors 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm HARROW

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9002) \(\Theta\) Harrow on the Hill City Of Angels 1.50pm. 4.10pm. 6.30pm. (20th Anniversary Edition) 1.10pm. 3 40pm. 6 10pm. 8.40pm Guru In Seven12.50pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Mad City 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Mimic 4.30pm 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 6.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Sliding Ooors 4.50pm.

ILFORD

ODEON 10181-315 4217) ← Highpale

PURLEY

ABC (0870-902 0407) BR. Purley The Object Of My Affection 5 40pm Red Corner 8.20pm Six Days, Seven Mights 5.10pm, 8.10pm Silding Doors 5.50pm, 8.40pm

PUTNEY ABC (0870 902 0401) + Putney Bridge, BR. Pulney, City Of Angels 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Object Of My Affection 1pm, 6pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm The Wedding Singer 3.30pm,

RICHMOND

8.30pm

ODEON STUDIO (0181-315 4218) BR/ Richmond City OI Angels 1.10pm. 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9pm The Object Of My Affection 1.10om. 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm. 9.20pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm. 4pm, 7pm, 9.30pm

ROMFORD ABC (0870-902 0419) BR Romlord Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 2.10pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Object Of My Affection 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.15pm Six Days, Seven Nights 2.20pm.

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (01708-729040) BR. Romlord City Of Angels 12,40pm, 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Deep Impact 12.15pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12.30pm, 3pm. 6pm. 8.30pm Mad City 12 50pm. 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Mimic .30pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm The Object Of My Affection 3.50pm, 8.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Stiding Doors 1.30pm, 6.15pm The Weddiog Singer 12,10pm, 2,20pm, 4,30pm, 6,40pm,

SIDCUP ABC (0541-555 131) BR: Sidcup \$1x Days, Beven Nights 2 30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm, Sliding Doors 2,15pm, 5.15pm,

STAPLES CORNER

VIRGIN (0870-907 0717) 8R. Cricklewood City Of Angels 1.30pm. Anniversary Edition) 2 45pm. 5.30pm, 8.15pm Mad City 3pm, 6pm, 8.45pm The Object Of My Affection 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer 2pm, 5.20pm, 8pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-902 0415) BR. Streatharn Hill Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Mad City 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.45pm Silding Doors 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.45pm

ODEON (0181-315 BR: Streatham Hill/ Brixton/Clapham Common Mimic 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm The Object Of My Affection 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Stx Days, Seven Nights 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm Soul Food 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm The Wedding Singer 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

NEW STRATFORD PICTURE (U) 8.15pm lord East City Of Angels 3.55pm, 9pm The Girl With Brains In Her Feet 2pm, 6.50pm Girls' Night 1.30pm, 6.30pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 4.35pm, 6.55pm, 9 15pm Guru in 7 1.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm Mimic 1 30nm, 4nm, 9nm The Object of My Affection 4.20pm, 6.50pm Six Days, 9.15pm Soul Food 6.30pm

SUTTON

UCI 6 (0990-888 990) 8R. Sutton. O Morden City Of Angels 4 15pm. 3 15pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 4pm, 6 30pm, 9pm Mad City 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Mimic 9.45pm The Object Of My Affection 6.15pm Six Days, Seven Nights 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Sliding Doors 5pm, 7.15pm The Wedding Singer 3.45pm. 8.45pm

TURNPIKE LANE

CORONET (0181-888 2519)

Grunpike Lane Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.50pm, 6 20pm S 35pm The Object Of My Affection 3 40cm 5 55cm 6.30cm Six Days. Seven Nights 3 45pm 6 20pm 8 40pm UXBRIDGE

ODEON (01895-813 139) ← Uxbridge Six Days, Seveo Nights 1 10pm 5 30pm 6 10pm, 5.35pm Sliding Doors 1 15pm, 3 35pm, 6 15pm, 8 40pm

WALTHAMSTOW

ABC (0370-902 0424) Walthamstow Central City Of Angels 1 25pm 3,40pm. o 15pm. 8 50pm Mimic 3 50pm. 8 40pm The Object Of My Affection 20pm, 6pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1 45pm, 4pm, 6 15pm, 8.30pm

WALTON ON THAMES THE SCREEN AT WALTON (0:932-252825) BR Walton on Thames Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 3 05pm 6 05pm, 8.25pm Six Days,

Seven Nights 3 45pm. 6 30pm, 8.45pm WELL HALL CORONET 10181-850 33511 BR Eliham The Object Of My Affection

3 40cm, 5.55pm, 6 30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 3 45pm, 6.20pm, S 40pm WILLESDEN

BELLE-VUE (0181-630 0822) → Willesden Green Sliding Doors

4 30pm, ö.30pm 9pm

ODEON (0181-315 4222) 8R/+ Wimbledon & South Wimbledon City Of **Angels 1cm, 3.30cm 6cm, 8.30cm** Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 1pm 3.50pm opm 8 30pm The Object Of My Affection 1.10pm. 3.30pm. ទីនកា. ខឹ Rupm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Stiding Doors 4pm, 8.45pm The Wedding Singer 2pm, 6.45pm

WOODFORD ABC (0181-989 3463) ↔ South Woodlord City OJ Angels 1.15pm 5.50pm 6pm, 8.25pm The Object OJ My Affection 1.15cm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm. 8 30pm Six Days, Seven Nights

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WOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR. Woolwich Arsenal Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 3,50pm, 6,20pm.

8.35pm Six Days, Seveo Nights 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm CINEMA

LONDON CINE LUMIERE AT THE INSTITUT FRANÇAIS Queensberry Place SW7 (0171-838 2)44/2146) Le assard Sur Le Toit (NC) 7.30pm

REPERTORY

ICA The Mail SW1 (0171-930 3647/cc 0171-930 3647) Organ (NC) 2.30pm, 8.30pm This Is Not An Exit: Bret Easton Ellis (NC) 5pm Smoke Signals (NC) 7pm Native American Shorts 2 (NC) 7pm Don't Look Back (NC) 9pm

NFT South 8ank SE1 (0171-633 0274/cc 928 3232) Good Will Hunding (15) 2.30pm, 6.10pm A Story Di Floating Weeds: Yasujiro Ozu (NC) 6.15pm Berlin Airlitt 1948-49: 50th Anniversary: Museum Special Event (NC) 7.30pm The Road To Fort Alamo: Fantasm: Mario Bava (NC) 7.30pm Madame Butterfly (PG) 8.30pm

PEPSI IMAX The Trocadero Piccadilly Circus W1 (0171-494 4153) Across The Sea Of Time - A New York Adventure (3-0) (U) 11am, 1.05pm. 5.20pm 1.5-City In Space (NC) 12 10pm, 2.15pm, 4.25pm, 6.30pm, 8.25pm **Everest (U)** 3 20pm, 7.50pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) The Rainmaker (15) 1pm The Man to The Iron Mask (12) 3.45pm Breakdown (15) 6.25pm L.A. Confidential (18)

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road W6 (0181-237 1111) La Haine (15) 6.45pm + Nil By Mouth (18) 8.40pm WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentland (0181-568 1176) Stiff Upper Lips (15) 5pm City Of Angels (12) 9pm A Thousand Acres (15) 7pm

BRIGHTON

DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-626261) Alterglow (15) 6.30pm L'Apparte-ment (15) 2.15pm + Un Coeur En Hiver 4.30pm Sling Blade (15) 9pm

BRISTOL WATERSHED |0117-925 3845) The General (15) 5.45pm. 8.30pm Salut Cousini (15) 6pm Love And Oeath On Long Island (15) 8.20pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) Love And Death On Long Island (15) 12.30pm, 7pm Tha Apostle (12)

2.30pm, 9.15pm Point Blank (1B) 5pm CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE 101222-399666) Amistad (15) 6.15pm Love And Death Do Long Island (15) 7.30pm My Son The Facatic (15) 2.30pm, 8pm

CHICHESTER NEW PARK FILM CENTRE

(01243-786650) The Wedding Singer (12) 9.15pm Regeneration (15) 4pm Good Will Hunting (15) 6.30pm

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) The Apostle (12) 6pm, 8.30pm Wild Man Blues (12) 6pm Mother And Son

CINEMA CITY 101603-622047) Great Expectations (15) 8.15pm Spice Girls: Shorts (NC) 5.45pm

PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) The Hanging Garden (15) 8pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

ARNOLFINI (0117-929 9191). Ponette [15]. Side Story (PG)

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01275-831099). City Of Angels (12). Six Days, Seven Nights (12). Star Kid 1PG). 101 Dalmatians (U) Kiss Or Kill

18). Scream 2 (18). Titaoic (12) Grease (20th Anniversary Edition: 17-3).
Blues Brothers 2000 (PG) Wishmaster !18: Deep Impact (12: The Big Lebowski (18) Oark City (15) Anastasia (U) MouseHunt (PG), Sliding Doors (15). The Wedding Singer (12), Godzilla (PG) Gharwali Bahar-wali (PG) Mimic (13), The Object Of My Affection (15) Jurassic Park PG). Ghulam (PG) Mad City (15:

ORPHEUS HENLEAZE :0:17 962 1644) Godzilla (FG) Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG). The Wedding Sioger (12): Six Days, Sev-

ODEON (0117-939 0882), Ulee's Gold (15). George Of The Jungle (1): Six Days, Seven Nights (12) The Object Of My Affection (15), Paws (FG:

Godzilla (PG). The Wedding Singer (2): Free Willy 3: The Rescue (1) ABC WHITELADIES ROAD (0117-97)

3640): City Of Angels (12) Grease (20) Anniversary Edition (PG), Mad City (15)

OXFORD ABC GEORGE STREET (954) 550501) Grease (20th Anniversal) Edition: (PG): MouseHunt (PG). The Wedding Singer (13) City Of Angels (12). Six Days, Seven Nights (12) The Object Of My Affection (15)

ABC MAGDALEN STREET (054) -550509). Six Days, Seven Hights (12). Godzilla (PG)

PHOENIX PICTURE HOUSE 101865-554909), Love And Oeath On Long Island (15), Kurt & Courtney (15) The Wings Of The Dove (15: Tom & Viv (15). The People Vs Larry Plynt (18) Men in Black (PG). Sling Blade (15). Amy Foster (12) The Jungle Book (U)

SALISBURY

ODEON (01722-415585). Godzilla IPG1. Mimic (15): The Secret Garden (U). City Of Angels (12): The Wedding Singer (12), Jungle 2 Jungle (PG). The Object DI My Affection (15). Sliding Doors (15), Beethgven (U), Six Days, Seven Nights (12), MouseHunt (FG)

THEATRE WEST END

Ticket availability details are for loday; times and prices for the week, running times include inlervals.
- Seats at all prices 1 — Seats at some prices O

— Returns only Matiness — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue. [4]: Wed. [5]: Thu. [6]: Fri. [7]: Sat > ART Richard Grilliths, Tony Haygarth, Malcolm Storry in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndham's Theatre Charing Cross Road. WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) Leicester Square. Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Wed 3pm, Sat & Sun 5pm,

£9.50-£27.50. 90 mins. AS YOU LIKE IT Shakespeare's literary comedy contrasting the court and the natural world. The obe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9919) O London Bridge. In 1ep, today 2pm. ends 8 Sep, £5-£20, concs avail-

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the lavourite fairy lale. **Dominion Theatre** Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 7 30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, £17.50-£32.50. 150 mins.

BLOOD BROTHERS WILL Russell's long-running musical melo-drama. Phoenix Theatre Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ← Leicesler Square/Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 7 45pm, mats Thu 3pm, Sat 4pm, £10.50-£29.50. 165 mins.

 BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Theatre Aldwych, WC2 10171-930 8800) Covent Garden/Charing Cross. Tue-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats Sun 4pm, £6.75-£30 160 mins.

D CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Theatre Parker Street, WC2 10171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) ↔ Coveni Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7,45pm, mats Tue & Sal 3pm, £12.50-£32.50, 165 mins.

O CHICAGO Ruthie Henshall stars in this hil Broadway musical. Adelphi Theatre Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) & Charing Cross. Mon-Sal 8pm, mats Wed & Sal 2,30pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee), 130 mins.

D CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sal 7 30pm, mais Wed & Sat 3pm, £5-£27.50, 140 mins,

● THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company last-forward through 37 plays. Criterioc Theatre Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) ← Piccadilly Circus. Wed-Sal 8pm, mats Thu 3pm, Sat 5pm, Sun 4pm, £9.50-£20, 120 mins.

DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. Labatt's Apollo Hammersmith Gueen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) Hammersmilh, Mon-Sat 7,30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm. £10-£32.50.

GREASE Marissa Dunlop stars in the slage version of the hit (ilm. Cambridge Theatre Earlbam Street, WC2 10171-494 5080) ← Covent Garden. om, mats Wed & Sat 3 £10-£30. 150 mins.

O HOW I LEARNED TO DRI-**VE** Paula Vogel's drama about anncestuous relationship belween a eenager and her uncle. Donmar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ← Coveni Garden, Mon-Sal 8pm, mats Thu & Sal 4pm, ends 8 Aug. £12-£16, concs available, 95 mins.

THE ICEMAN COMETH Kevin Spacey stars in Eugene O'Neill's classic lestimony to the power of dreams Dtd Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 430 0000) BR/← Waterloo Mon-Sal 7pm, mats Sat 1.30pm, ends 1 Aug £5-E30, 180 mins.

AN IDEAL HUSBAND Intristopher Cazenove and Kale O'Mara in Peter Halt's acclaimed production of Wilder comedy Albery Theatre St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1720 cc 67 1111 ← Leicester Square, Mon-Sat 45cm mats The 3pm, Sat 4pm lends 3 4pg 57 50-929 50 165 mins.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Caldry's widely-acclaimed quation of JB Priestley's thatter Garrick Theatre Charing Closs Road NGC (0)71-494 5085) Leicester Equate Mon-En 7 45pm Sat 5 15pm, rats Wed 2 30pm, 8at 5pm, 910 50-525

• KAT AND THE KINGS s.cai per in 1950s Cape Town Vaudeville Theatre Strand, WC2 (017): 536 5937 BR → Chairing Cross Mor. to Spm. Fri-Sal 5 30pm & 5 30pm, ands Fug. 55 25-527.50, 130 mins.

A LETTER OF RESIGNA-TION High Whitemore's play about the telumo allair and political meralit Savoy Theatre Strand, WC2 (0171-626 236 0479) Chasing Cross Embankment, Mon-Sal 45pm mais Wed 3pm, Sal 4pm. 210 50-625 135 mins

● MAJOR BARBARA Jemma Recarave and Peter Bowles star Piccadilly Theatre Denman Street, W1 (3171-369 1734) @ Piccadilly Circus. in lep tonight 7.45pm, continuing. 23 50-027 50, 180 mins.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE Shakespeare's cross Cultural comedy. The Globe New Globe. Walk, SE) (0171-401 9919) London Stidge, la rep. tonight 7,30pm, ends 49 Sep. 25-520, concs available, 180 mins LES MISERABLES Musical

masterpiece Palace Theatre Shaffesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) Ficcadilly Circus Mon-Sat 7.30pm. 77-532 50 195 Thu & Sal 2 30pm. 57-532 50 MISS SAIGON Musical which

160605 the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Viet-

nam. Theatre Royal, Oruny Lana

Catterine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060)

O Covera Garden Mon-Sat 7,45nm, mats

Wed & Sat 3pm, 25 75-932 50, 165 mins

mats Tue 2.45pm, Sat 5pm, £9-£23, 135

THE MOUSETRAP Agailta

Christie's whodunnil. SI Martlo's

Theatre West Street, WC2 (0171-836)

1443) - Leicester Square, Mon-Sat 8pm.

● MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING Declan Donnellan directs Cheek By Jowl in a new production of Shakespeare's classic. Playhouse Theatre Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401/cc 316 4747) ← Embankment, Mon-Sat 7.30om, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 25 Jul, £10-£22.

THE OLD NEIGHBOR-HOOD David Mamet's new play is directed by Patrick Marber. Royal Court Theatre (at the Duke Of York's) Si Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-565 5000) Delicester Square/Charing Cross. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3.30pm, £5-£19.50, benches 10p, Mon - all seats £5.

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical. Her Majesty's Theatre Havmarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) ➡ Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed & Sat 3pm, £10-£32.50. 150 mins.

O POPCORN Lawrence Boswell directs 8en Elton's satire on cinema violence. Apollo Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 |0171-494 50701 → Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 8pm. mats Wed 3pm, Sat 4pm, £6.50-£23.50. 150 mlns.

HOUND & BLACK COMEDY Double bilt of drama from Torn Stoppard and Peter Schaffer, directed by Gregory Doran. Comedy Theatre Panlon Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) ← Piccadilly Cir-cus/Leicester Square Mon-Sal 7.30pm. mats Wed & Sat 3pm, £7.50-£27.50. 165

RENT Musical inspired by La Boheme and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399) & Holhorry/Tottenham Court Boad, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 3pm. £12.50-£32.50. 160 mins.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE OCLIVIER: Oldahornal Rodgers and Hammers(ein's classic musica) leaturing the song Oh What A Beautilul Mornin'. In rep. lonight 7pm, ends 3 Oct. • LYTTELTON: The London Cuckolds Ravenscrolt's Restoration comedy in a new version by Terry Johnson. In Tep, Tonight 7.30pm, ends 11 Aug. 195 mins.

O COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, controlling, 145 mins. Olivler & Lyttellon: £8-£27. Oklahoma! £12-523 50. Cottesloe: \$12.£18 South Brok.

£32.50. Cottesloe: £12-£18, South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000) Embankment. **OSATURDAY NIGHT FEVER** Hit 1970s musical teaturing songs by the Bee Gees, including three new tracks. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) → Oxford Circus. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, £10-£32,50, 135 mins.

• SHAKESPEARE'S VILLAINS Steven Berkott's study of evil in Shakespeare. Theatre Royal, Haymarket Haymarkel, SW1 10171-930 8800) ← Piccadifly Circus, Tue-Sat 8.15pm, mats Sat 5pm, ends 9 Aug, £8-£17.50, concs £10. 70 mins.

SHOW BOAT Jerome Kem and Oscar Hammerstein's musical set on the Mississippi, Prince Edward Theatre Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400)

- Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sal 2.30pm, £10-£35, 180 mins.

 SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE -THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER The rock and roll itmakers celebrated in a musical revue that includes Jaithouse Rock, Prince of Wales Theatre Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) & Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus, Mon-Thu Born, Fri 5.45pm & 8.30pm, Sat 3pm & 8pm, £15-£32 50, Fri mais £10-£25. MINERVA STUDIO THEATRE Look Joe Orlon's larce about the altermath

ot a bank robbery. Mon-Sal 7.45pm, mais STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-mucical Apotto Victorie Wilton Road. SW1 (0171-416 6070) 8R/ Victoria Mon-Sal 7.45pm, mals Tue & Sat 3pm. £12 50-£30 150 mins.

■ SWEET CHARITY 80nm Langloid clare in this classic musical featuring the numbers Hey 8rg Spender and the fillythm (It Life Victoria Palace Victoria Sheet, SW1 (0171-834-1317) SE - Victoria Mon-Set 7 30mm mats Wed 3 S2/ 3pm, \$15-230, 160 mins

THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE dane Asher slars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy. Gielgud Theatre Shaheshory Avenue W1 10171-494 3065) Ficcadilly Circus Mon-Sal " 45pm, mats Thu & Sat 3pm £10 50-\$27.50, 140 mino

TROILUS AND CRESSI-DA Shakespeare's classic tale of love and chivally sel during the Seige of troy Open Air Theatre Regent's Park, NW1 :0171-486 2431-cc 486 1933i ← Baker Street, In rep. forright 8pm, ends 5 Sep.

THE UNEXPECTED MAN Yasmina Reza's follow-up to Art is a drama about a novelist and a life-long admirer Michael Gambon and Eileen Aband Stat. Duchess Thealre Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 50751 → Coverd Garden, Mon-Sal Spm. mals Wed 4pm. Sat 5pm, \$10-£25, 100 mins.

WHAT YOU GET AND WHAT YOU EXPECT Aceibic look at a generation bent on cuccess from lean-Marie Bessel Lyric Hammersmith king Street, W6 (0181-741 23111 → Hammercmith, Mon-Sat 7 30pm, mals Sat 2 30pm, ends 8 Aug. £10-£14, concs available

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name about diamalisation of Victor Hugo's two children who mistake an escaped CONVICT Jesus Aldwych Theatre Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003(cc 636 2428) → Holbom. Mon-Sai 7 30pm, mais Thu & Sai 3pm. £10-£32-50 | 120 mins.

● THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chiffing ghost story Fortune Theatre Ruscell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238 cc 344 44441 & Covent Garden/Holborn Mon-Sal 8pm, mats Tue 3pm Sal 4pm £8.50-£23.50 110 mins

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

AT LAST AN alternative to seedy tales about Eastern exotica. Lady Boys of Bangkok, is a new cabaret show featuring 16 of the world's most artful female impersonators. In this particular vision of Bangkok, the debauchery and excess is revealed in splendid costumes that glitter and drip with gold, and spectacular dance routines interlaced with comedy. These performers make swopping genders look as easy as changing your clothes. Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (0171-494 5040) 2 Sept - 26 Sept, £10.50 - £30

TOM JONES (right) garners a more considered sort of praise nowadays. Panting pensioners still throw their knickers in appreciation of his raw, Welsh manliness, but Tom has also hered a contemporary generation with laughs rather than lust. After sending himself up in Tim Burton's spoof sci-fi film Mars Attacks, a duet with Robbie Williams at the Brit Awards and the kitsch name check on Cerys and Space's "The Ballad of Tom Jones", the real thing will be on stage in November.

Newcastle Arena (0191-260 50001 25 Nov; NEC, Bham (0121-780 4133) 27 Nov. The dates at York Barbican Centre on 11 Nov and Sheffield City Hall on 12 Nov are sold out



THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE After Darwin Timberlake Wertenbaker's dramatisation of the clash between believers in natural selection and believers in religious humanism stars Colin Salmon. Mon-Sat 8pm, mais Sat 3.30pm, ends 22 Aug. £8-£15. Avenue Road, NW3 (0171-722 9301) → Swiss Cottage.

SOUTHWARK PLAYHOUSE The Venetian Twins Classic Italian comedy which tells a similar story to Cornedy Of Errors, Mon-Sal 7,30pm, ends 25 Jul. £7, concs £5, Mon - all seats £3. Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 (0171-620 3494) - Borough.

YOUNG VIC Twelfth Night Tim Supple directs this dark comedy. In rep, tonight 1,30pm & 7,30pm, ends 25 Jul. £15, concs £12, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363) 8R/- Waterloo.

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BATH THEATRE ROYAL The Bocky Hor-ror Show Jason Donovan stars in the 25th-anniversary tout of the classic rock'n'roll musicat, Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri & Sat 6pm & 9pm, ends 18 Jul. £9-£22.50. St Johns Place (01225-448844/cc

THEATRE ROYAL Spring And Port Wine Comedy about a disciplinarian fa-ther whose daughter finally challenges his authority. Tue-Sat 7.45pm, ends 18 Jul. £6.50-£11.50, concs available. Bond Sireel (01273-328488)

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE Time And Agalo Musical about forbidden love In a 1936 public boys school. Tue-Sal, 7.30pm, ends 1 Aug. £6.50, concs £4.50. Princes Street (01273-570028) BRISTOL

HIPPODROME THEATRE The Goodbye Girl Marti Webb and Gary Wilmol star in this musical adaptation o the Neil Simon movie. Mon-Sat 7,30pm mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, \$5-\$20.50 concs available. SI Augustines Parade 10117-929 9444)

CHICHESTER CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Racing Demon David Hare's drama about tour Church Of England clergy, Mon-Sal 7.30pm, mals Thu & Sal, 2.30pm, ends 1 Aug. £6.50-£25 Oaklands Park (01243-781312)

Thu & Sal 2.45pm, ends 18 Jul £10-£12,50, concs available Oaklands Park (01243-781312) GUILDFORD YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Alarms & Excursions - more plays Ihan one Michael Fravil's new contedy Mon Thu 7 45pm, Fir-Sal Bpin, mats The

921 50, concs available Millbrook 101483-4400001 NEWBURY WATERMILL THEATRE Cabare kander and Ebb c musical about life in Sai 7 30om, mais Thu & Sai, 2,30pm, ends 23 Jul. phone for prices. Bagnor

& Sat 2 30pm. ends 25 Jul. £14 50-

OXFORD OLD FIRE STATION THEATRE The Fall And Rise Df SIr Watter Raieigh Willy depiction of the life of this renowned Instorical liquie Mon-Sal 30pm mals Thu 2 30pm, ends 18 Jul

£9 £10, concs £7-£8 George Street

(01865-7944901 PLAYHOUSE THEATRE The Glass Menagerie Tennesee Withams' moving drama of love and dreams. Mon-Thu & Sat 7 30pm, Sun 8pm, ends 19 Jul 96 50-917.50 Beaumont Street 101865-

THE OTHER PLACE Goodnight Children Everywhere Drama about the haqility ol tamily relationships in rep. Ioniohl 7.30om, ends 1 Sep £12-£19 Southern Lane (01789-295623) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Merchant DI Venice

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

RSC production of Strakespeare":: drama about love and money in tep, tonight 7 30pm. ends 1 Sep 95-937 Waterside (01789-295623) SWAN THEATRE Bartholomew Fair Jonson's theatrical drama. In rep

tonight 7.30pm, ends 1 Sep. £5-£31.

Waterside (01789-295623)

THEATRE ROYAL A Tale Of Two Cities Paul Nicholac stars in a new musical adaptation, Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Thir 2 30pm, Sat 4 45pm, ends 1 Aug. £5-\$20, concs avaidable. Thames Street (01753-853888)

EXHIBITIONS

THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY Image and Icon Greek pholography 1975-1995. Mon-Sun 9.30am-5.30pm (last adm. 4.45pm), ends 19 Jul. £2.50, concs £1.75. The Octagon Galleries, Milsom Street (01225-462841)

BRISTOL ARNOLFINI Tracey Moffatt: An Exhibition Of Photographs And Films First major solo show. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 23 Aug, free. Narrow Ouay (0117-929 9191)

CARDIFF NATIONAL MUSEUM AND GALLERY Victorian Visions: Drewings And Watarcolours Victorian art from Rossetti 10 Whistler. Tue-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 27 Sep. £4.25, concs £2.50, tarnlly £9.75, Cathays Park

(01222-397951)

(01243-774557)

CHICHESTER PALLANT HOUSE Painlers' Progress: Drawn From The Royal College Of Art Collection Includes recent work by graduates Dinos Chapman and Tracey Emin, Tue-Sat 10am-5, 15pm & Sun 12,30pm-5,15pm, ends 6 Sep. £2.80, concs £2.20, £1.70 students, accompanied children free North Patlant

LONDON BARBICAN ART GALLERY The Werhol Look: Glemour, Style. Fashion Over 500 works by 60 artists explore art, film and lashion duting Waihol's lile. Mon, Thu-Sal 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm, Wed 10am-7.45cm, Sun & Bank Hols 12noon-6.45pm, ends 16 Aug. £6 1£4 after 5pm Mon-Fri), concs £4. Silk Street, EC2

(0171-638 4141) → Barbican/Moorgate. DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY Paula Rego The leading painter presents new work inspired by a 19th century novel. Tue-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 26 Jul. £3, OAP/NUS £1.50, UB40\disabled\child\FrI Iree (to ege Hoad, SE21 (0181-69) 5254) BR: West Dulwich/North Dulwich.

NATIONAL GALLERY Mastars Of Light: Dutch Painting From Utrecht In The Golden Age Outch paintings from the 17th century demonstrating. Ends 2 Aug. £5, concs £3. Caravagglo: The Flagellation Of Christ Exhibition centred on a loaned work by the 17th century artist. Ends 9 Aug. liee. Venice Through Canaletto's Eves wenty-three paintings and drawings Mon-Sat 10am-6pm (Wed until 8pm). Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 11 Oct, free. Tratalgar Square, WC2 (0171-839 3321)

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Royal Academy Summer Exhibition 1998 Major annual selling exhibition. Mon-Sun (Carn-6pm (Sun to 8 30pm), ends 16 Aug £7. UB40/OAP £5.50, NUS £5. child 12-18 £2.50 child 8-11 inci handbook Critical Mass: Antony Gormley Staty casts of human bodies. Mon-Sun all day, 30 ends

Chagall: Love And The Stage

Featuring colouitul murals made ii

Russia Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (Sun Jul 10am-8.30pm), ends 4 Oct 26, concs 15 NUS E4, child 12-18 02 50, child B-11 £1 Burtington House, Precadilly, W1 (0171-300 8000) Green Park TATE GALLERY Some New Paintinus: Lucian Freud Recent work by the leading British artist, Endo 26 Jul. e Patrick Heron Retrospective of the Butish artist who played a major role in post-war abstract art Ends 6 Sep. free Moonlight And Firelight: Watercolours From The Turner Bequest Work

10171-887 8000) ← Pimiro SAINSBURY CENTRE FOR VISUAL ARTS Spain Is Different: Post-Pop And The New Image In Spain loons of confemporary Spanish art and culture Tue-Sun Clam-Spm. ends 30 Aug. £2, cones/child £1, Earlham Road (01603-593199)

exploring Turner's interest in moonlight

and livelight, Mon-Sun 10am-5 50pm

ends 11 Nov. £5, £3.25. Millbank, SW1

ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM Drawings: Claude Lorrain 1600-1682 Over 100 drawings covering every aspect ut the artist's work. The Saf 10am-4pm. Sun 2pm-4pm, ends 13 Sep tree Beaumont Sheet (01865-278000) MUSEUM OF MODERN ART A

Conversation Piece: John Murphy

Juliao Sarmenlo Paintings, objects

and installation. Tue-Sun 11am-6pm

(Thu until 9pm), ends 4 Oct £2.50 (free Wed morn & Thu eve), concs £1 50, child Ires. Pembroke Street (01865-722733) WORTHING WORTHING MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Masked In Mystery: Philip Jackson Large sculptures Mon-Sat

(Cami Spin lends, 19 Sep. free Chapel

Bost (01203-201729)

CLASSICAL

CHELTENHAM PITTVILLE PUMP ROOM LYTIC Quartet A new quartet by Gavin Bryars with Mozart and Ravel, Tonight 11am. £8-£13. Albert Road (01242-523852/cc

LONDON PLASTERER'S HALL John Lift Beethoven's Appassionata Sonata with Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition. Tonight 8pm. £5-£15. London Wall, EC2

(0171-638 8891) Barbican.

WIGMORE HALL Christine Sohn Solo Violin Sonatas with Chausson's Concert in D. Op.21, Tonight 7,30pm. £6-£14. Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141) Bond Street/Oxford Circus.

OPERA

LONDON ALMEIDA THEATRE Wolf Cob Village/Night Banquet Almeida Opera productions of Guo Wenjing's double-bill, sung in Chinese. Tonight 8pm. £9.50-£19.50, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359

BARBICAN HALL Carmen Sir Colin Davies conducts a concert performance of Bizet's classic opera, Tonight 7pm, £6-£30, Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) ◆ Moorgate/Barbican.

DANCE

EASTBOURNE CONGRESS THEATRE World Of Classical Ballet Wayne Sleep leads a cast of dancers in three acts. Tonight 8pm. £7.50-£15.50, concs available. Compton Street (01323-412000)

LONDON COLISEUM The Royal BalleL: Swao Lake Anthony Dowell's sumptuous production sel in Russia. Tonight (Guillem/Cope), 7.30pm, £10-£55, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300) ← Letcester Square/Charing Cross.

PLYMOUTH THEATRE ROYAL Tap Dogs Dem Perry's award-winning tap show. Tonight 7 30pm. £10-£17, concs available Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

LITERATURE

BATH

CAN OPENERS POETRY READ-ING: JETTA PATERSON The Poetry Can presents the work of leading contemporary poets Window Arts Centre SI James Memorial Hall (01225-421700) Tonight 8pm, £2, concs £1.

LONDON

GREENWICH & DOCKLANDS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL DUBLIN LITERARY LATE NIGHT CAFE Talk, literary readings and music celebrate the file of the late poet and playwight Brendan Behan. Trafalgar Tavern Park Row SE10 (0181-853 4444) BR Maze Hill/DLR Island Gardens. Tonighl 8pm-1am, £5 concs £4.

COMEDY

LONDON DAVE GORMAN IN REASONS O BE CHEERFUL AT CANAL CAFE THEATRE The BAFTA award winning Mis Merlon willer. Tonight 8om, £5 Bridge House Pub. Delamere al Oak/Warwick Avenue

THE COMEDY STORE The

Neil Mullarkey. Lee Simpson and And Smart, Tonight 8pm, £11. Ovendon St. SW1 101426-914433) → Procadilly Circus. RTFP AT 100 CLUB Recording of Radio 4 impro news show with ex Neighbours lunnyman Mark Little, John Moloney and Ed Byrne. Tonight 7pm, tree

Cornedy Store Players with Jim Swe

CLUBS

Oxford Street, W1 (0171-636 0933)

BRISTOL

Oxford Circus.

ANANDA SHANKA AT LAKOTA The son of Ravi. supported by DJs John Stapleton and Steve Symons, Tonight, 8.30pm-late, £8, concs £6 50 Upper York Street (0117-942 6193)

LONDON

THE BIGGER BLUE FESTIVAL AT THE BLUE NOTE AT THE BLUE NOTE Starring James Lavelle. Pashay. The Psychonauts. Deejay Punk Roc. EON Recordings and Lionrock Soundsystem, Tonight, 9pm-3am, Parkfield Street, W1 (0171-288 1986) ↔ Angel, £8, concu/before 11pm 27

EVENTS

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BITE 98 - BATH INTERNATION-AL TASTE EXTRAVAGANZA Street

parties, open air concerts, barbecues, gourmet teasts and special events devoted to food and wine at over 40 of Bath's most prestigious holels and restaurants. Bhe 98 - Bath International Tasta Extravaganza Various venues (01225-874847) ends 26 Jul. phone for details.

GREENWICH & DOCKLANDS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL This year's theme is Waterfront Cities, and London partners Dublin to present

19 Jul, phone for details. LITTLEHAMPTON SPACE - THE REAL FRONTIER EXHIBITION Exhibition about the past and present of space exploration, Little-hampton: Museum Manor House, Church Street (01903-715149) Tue-Sat 10.30am-

OXFORD CLUB CULTURE Unique live event with theatre, dance and video exploring the experience of clubbing in the 1990s. Pegasus Theatre Magdaten Road (01865-722851) 8pm, ends 18 Jul. £5.

4.30pm, ends 1 Oct, free.

concs £3.

MUSIC

BRISTOL TIN STAR, CHASER Upcoming India bands. The Louisiana Wapping Road (0117-926 5978) Tonight 8pm, £3.

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10.00

HARLOW IDLEWILD Sell-assured Scottish quartet playing intelligent punk pop.
The Square Fourth Avenue (01279-305000) Tonight 7.30pm, £4.

LONDON AILLTOWN BROTHERS, BOOM BOOM MANCINI Madchester veterans in comeback shocker. Barfly at the Faicon Royal College Street NW1 (0171-482 4808) ← Carnden Town, Tonight 8.30pm, £5. DEEJAY PUNK ROC, EON RECORDINGS, MAGIC TOES, HEAVE, THE SCOUNDRELLES

Quirky vitnol with former members of the Headcleaners. Dublio Castle Parkway NW1 (0171-378 6095) ← Camdei Town, Tonight 8.30pm, £4, concs £3.50. BLUES BROTHERS BAND Not a tribute, the movie originals, including the legendary Steve Cropper, Donald "Duck" Ounn, and special guest Eddie Floyd. Royal Festivat Hall South Bank S£1 (0171-960 4242) BR/ Waterloo. Tonight 8pm, £10-£27.50.

MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

JASON REBELLO/GERARD

PRESENCER Dynamic modern plano and trumpet due. Greenwich & Docklands Festival, The Space West Ferry Road, Isle Of Dogs E14 (0181-853, 4444) DLR. Mudchute, Tonight 8.30pm. £8. concs £6. BOB MARTIN TRIO Former Buddy Rich alto soloist leads trio set and jam

session, Ouri'n Pussycat Red Church Street EC2 (0171-739 2808) ↔ Old Street, fonight 8.30pm, free. JAMES WILLIAMS TRIO Soul jazz pianist, lormerly with Art Blakey, Pizzay Express Jazz Club Dean Street W (0171-439 8722) & Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 9pm. £12.50.

RICHARD RODNEY BEN-

NETT/MARY CLEERE HARAN

Stylish cabaret partnership perform shows

entitled S'Wonderful and Pennies From

Heaven, Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge SW1 (0171-235 5273) - Hyde Park Corner. Tonight 9 15pm & 11.15pm, £18, adv MARK LOCKHEART/ROB TOWNSEND/KUBRYK TOWNSEND/STU BUTTER FIELD Free jazz featuring two_ol London's finest contemporary saxists. The

Plough Museum Street WC1 (0171-636

7364) O Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 8.30pm, £4, concs £3. CAFE AMAN World fusion with an Easiern flavour. Queen Elizabeth Hall A South Bank Centre SE1 (0171-960 4242) BRV → Waterloo. Tonight 7.45pm, £10-

£15.

TERENCE BLANCHARD Bright NY trumpet star. Support from vocalist Stacey. Kenl Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) ← Leicester Square. Tonight 9.30pm, £15. mems £4. NUS £8 (Mon-Thu): £15, mems £8 (Fri-Sat) TOWNSHIP EXPRESS Classic litties style township jive and jazz Smollensics on the Strand Strand WC2 (0171-497 2101) ← Charing Cross:

Гопight 8.30рт, £4.50.

WEDNESDAY RADIO

RADIO CHOICE

TWO PROGRAMMES about (curiously, he is not short of obsession this evening. The healthier side is highlighted in Lifelines (9pm R4), a new series about "people with a passion for science". It starts with Brendan Godley, a biologist from Glasgow University, who has spent much of the last six

volunteers to accompany him on his expeditions).

in Stereonation (11.15pm R4). six comedies about music fanat ics, starting with a man whose life revolves around Kale Bush. There's not much new in here, but the script, by Graham Duff Mediterranean sea turtles on a (right), raises the odd smile. ROBERT HANKS



9.30 Midweek. Lively conversation with Libby Purves and guests. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Setting

the World on Fire. (8/10). 11.00 Trust Me. I'm a Policeman. In Robert Smith's six-part drama, John Woodvine is the detective sergeant who takes a reluctant work-experience youth on a stakeout, passing the time with highly unreliable tales of police work. 1: 'Drugs'. With David Antrobus and Jan Winters. Director Ned Chaillet. 11.15 Stereonation. See Choice,

11.30 The Mark Steel Revolution. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book; Every Secret Thing. (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service.

5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

RADIO 4 LW (198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service, 12.00 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast, 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.

leading figures from both union and league Phone 0500 909693 9.00 Proops's Hoops. Comedian Greg Proops begins his journey through the emazing history of basketball in Springfield Massachusetts, and reveals now the world's most popular game was nearly called boxball. 9.30 A Tour Remembered, Peter Baxter recalls classic cricket tours.

The former England captain talks

about the future of the game with

This week, England's tour to South Africa in 1948-9. With some classic commentary by John Arlott. 10.00 Late Night Live. With David Mellor, Including a late news briefing at 1100, and at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight and a topical late-night discussion.

1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

CLASSIC FM

(100.0-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Michael Mappin. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Con-certo. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM) 7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes. 10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Caimin Jones. 5.00 · 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

WORLD SERVICE (198kHz LW) 100 Newsdesk, 130 From Our

Own Correspondent. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 Om-nibus. 3.00 Newsday. 3.30 Meridian (Books), 4.00 World News, 4.05 World Business Report. 4.15 Sports Roundup. 4.30 The World Today (0430-0700)/Insight (SW 5875kHz only). 4.45 Off the Shelf: Candide (SW 5875kHz only). 5.30 Outlook (SW 7235kHz only). 5.55 - 6.30 Music Brief (SW7235kHz only).

TALK RADIO 6.30 New Talk Radio Breaklast Show 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 12.00 Lorraine Kelly. 2.00 Tommy Boyd. 4.00 Peter Deeley, 7.00 Anna Raeburn, 9.00 James Whale, 1.00 Ian Collins and the Creatures of the Night. 5.00 - 6.30 Early Show

3.55 Dangerfield (5810399). 4.55 East-

Enders (9955405), **5.30** Wowlabgroovy (9559283), **6.00** All Creatures Great and Small (7800405), **7.00** 2point4 Children

(2349641). 7.40 Waiting for God (9327080) 8.20 Dad's Army (8737689). 9.00 One

Eiger Sanction (1975) (59565757), 12.10 The Bill (3491603), 12.40 The Bill (9510993), 1.10

Foot in the Grave (4573931). 9.40 Film

Paul Merton (2173535). 1.35 Comic Strip (1821429). 2.10 The Equalizer (9304326).

6.00 Tiny Living (3240689). 9.00 Rolonda

(5812486). **9.50** Jeny Springer (4004405). **10.40** The Young and the Restless (8721757). **11.30** Brookside (5325912).

12.00 Jmmy's (9241592) 12.35 Anmal

(3392554). 2.05 Rolonda |6498776|. 2.55

Rescue (93290950) 1.00 Rescue 911

(1871047). 1.30 Ready, Steady, Cook

Living It Up' (2281660) 3.55 Jerry

Springer (2945202), 4-45 Tempesti

(8545776), **5.35** Ready, Steady, Cook (4357370), **6.10** Jerry Springer (9671196). **7.00** Rescue 911 (2892641), **7.30** Myster

ies, Magic and Miracles (9151134), **8.00** Side Ellects (2570467) **9.00 Film:** Colour

Me Perlect (1996) (2573554). **11.00** Sex Life Oown Under (1858196). **12.00** Close.

9.00 Film: Geronimo (1993) (27759912).

11.00 Film: Teamseh - the Last Warno

(1995) |89648221). 12.35 Film: The Bro-

ken Chain (1993) (66017968). 240 Films

Gerorumo (1993) (28782887). 5.00 Close

6.00 Box (9085221), 7.00 On the Buses

(2167844), 9.00 Coronation Street (2158196)

9.30 Emmerdale (3150937), 10.00 Jason

(8812979), 7.30 Nearest and Dearest (8891486), 8.00 Fern Street Gang

(2168573), 8.30 Mind Your Language

king (8880370). 11.00 Hawaii Five-O

(2161660). 12.30 Emmerdale (9550973).

1.00 Up the Garden Path (8604950), 1.30 Army Game (3517394), 2.00 Within These

Walls (8752689) 3.071 Jason King (272115)

4.00 Hawaii Frze-O (2733950), 5.00 Hart to

Hart (~125825). 6.00 Emmerdale (5486592).

6.30 Coronation Street (5477844), 7.00

Suigical Spint (7126554), 7.30 Fenn Street

Pace (9455329), 10.00 Comedians

Motors (7541689) 2.00 Close

(2179689), 10.30 Wheeltappers' and

(5473028), 8.00 Dempsey (9998844), 9.00

Shunters' (2155009) 11.00 Granada Men &

(8800134). 12.00 Coronation Street

GRANADA PLUS

LIVING

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

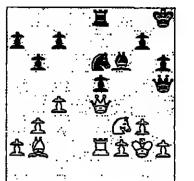
CHESS WILLIAM HARTSTON

MANY CLUB players spend most of their lives looking for beautiful combinations. Misled by a diet of White to play and win" positions in megazines and newspapers. they think that is the way a game ought to finish. In an ideal world. all games would be sparkling brilliancies, hut in real life, pretty combinations are the exception rather than the rule.

صكنا من الاحل

To counter the propaganda of the chess press. I am therefore planning a series of "Black to play and lose" positions in order to spread the message that most combinations do not work and strike a blow for dreary, efficient, point-scoring.

Take the position in the diagram. for example, from the game Agopov-Voon, Tallinn 1998. It is White to play and he has the opportunity to take the pawn on ea, but should be do so? After 1.Bxe5, White has to be wary of tricks with ..Ng5 1though 1...Ng5 2.Nxg5 Rxe5 does not work because of 3.Qa8+) but Agapov took with the knight instead. The game continued 1.Nxe5 Bxe5 2.Qxe5 (2.Bxe5 would invite trouble with 2...Ng5 wben 3.Bxg7+ Kxg7 4.Qxe8 Qf3+ leads to mater to reach something that



looks just like e Black to play and win position. As indeed it is. With the black

rook on the same line as the white queen, and another white rook just behind ber, anyone brought up on a diet of combinations should find 2... Oxe2! 3.Qxe2 Nf4+, leading to a winning endgame for Black Unfortunately, probably because Black has overdosed on pretty winning ideas, he played instead 2...Nf4+ at once. Now 3.gxf4 loses the queen, and 3.Qxf4 loses the rook.

So what's the problem? Well after 3.Qxf4 Black resigned. Either 3...Rxe2 4.Qf8+ or 3...Qxe2 4.Qxh6+ is followed by Qxg7 mate.

BRIDGE

TO GIVE the full bidding on this deal would take up too much space. It is sufficient to say that East opened One No-trump (12-14 points and West started rescue operations with a Stayman Two Clubs, North doubled and, four rounds later, after assorted emergency redoubles, West rested in Two Spades. This would heve cost 500 points but, rather than take the penalty, North-South pushed on to Three No-trumps with South as declarer.

West led \$6 against the notrump game and, after dummy had ducked. East woo with +Q and returned +K. There were only eight top winners and, in the hope of stealing a trick (for the heart finesse was surely wrongs, declarer led a diamond from the table. No joy: East went in immediately with his ace and returned +10 for his partner to take the next three tricks.

While South was right to avoid the simple heart finesse, his idea of pleying on diamonds was a little naive. If the adverse spades had been 4-4, surely East would not have risked returning his king at trick two.

So what was the solution? As Spades doubled.

N-S game; dealer East North **4** A S TAJ92 085 **♣**A K J 10 7 **◆**J9762 **↑**K O 10 ლ10764 ₩Q 8.5 0763 ♦AJ4 **4**6 **4**8432 South 4543 **♥K3** OKQ1092 **₽**Q95

deduced, East certainly held ♥Q but the whereabouts of ♥10 was completely unknown. Right, you have got the Ideal At trick three. declarer could have tried ♥ J from the table. If East plays low, the jack is allowed to run; if East covers with his queen, South wins and follows with a finesse of ♥9 - winning as the cards lie.

As this would bave been no certainty. North-South would heve been better advised to take the sure penalty from an adverse Two

PUZZLE

FOUND the following seotence restore its basic level and texture. seribbled on a piece of paper (Answer tomorrow) recently, with the number seven in signify?

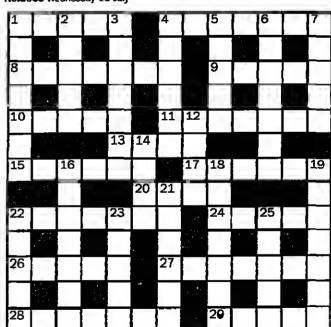
ber polka-dot dress; but after number that forms a multiple of washing tonight and some thera- itself when reversed - is exactly peutic lint on it, I'm sure it'll twice this answer.

brackets after it. Whet does it all Yesterday's answer: Madam spilled salmon roe on 2178 - the only other four-digit

 $1089 \times 9 = 9801$. Oddly enough,

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3663 Wednesday 15 July



DOWN

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Weekly (7683351). 2.00 Close.

N IRELAND 6.30 - 7.00 Newsine SCOTLAND 6.00 News 6.30 - 7.00

Reporting Scotland; Weather

WALES 6.30 - 7.00 Wales Today

As Cariton except: 10.25 Angla News and Local Weather (2429370). 10.30 Justice of the Land (3789660). News and Local Weather (1789660).
10.30 Justice of the Land (3789660).
11.25 Blue Heelers (9845298). 12.20
Anglia News and Local Weather (4177115). 1.00 Dinosaurs (48931). 1.30
Home and Away (80844). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (2844009). 3.20
Anglia News (1573660). 5.10 Shortland Street (5687573). 6.00 Home and Awesy (670488). 6.25 Anglia News (88250).
10.00 ITN News: Weather (56399).
10.30 Anglia News and Local Weather (921486). 10.40 Film: AWOL: Absent without Leave (47273912). 12.40 Film: Betwean Love and Hate (99429). 3.35
Cybernet (16439806). 4.00 To Be Announced (45852). 4.30 ITV
Nightscreen (47603). 5.00 Coronation Nightscreen (47603), 5.00 Coronation Street (24264).

CENTRAL As Cartton except: 10.25 Central News (2429370), 12.20 Central News News (2429370), 12.20 Central News (477715). 12.30 News; Weather (6573). 1.00 A Country Practice (48931). 3.20 Central News (1573660). 5.10 Shortland Street (5687573), 6.00 Home and Away (570486), 6.25 Central News and Weather (882950), 10-30 Central News (921486), 10-40 Film: Miami Blues (18070738). 4.05 Jobfinder (5871055). 5.20 Asian Eye (8499581).

As Cariton except: 10.25 HTV News (2429370). 12.20 HTV News (417715). 1.00 Shortland Street (48931). 1.30 Home and Away (80844), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (2844009). 3.20 HTV News (1573660), 5.10 Yan Can Cook - the Best of China (5687573). 6.00 Home and Away (570466). 6.25 Wates Torright (882950). 10.30 HTV News (921486). 10.40 Film: Sugarland News (921486), 10.40 Film: Signature Express (47273912), 12.40 Film: Setween Love and Hate (919429), 3.35 Cybernet (16439806), 4.00 To Be Amounced (45852), 4.30 ITV Nichtscreen (47803), 5.00 Coronation Street (24264).

HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 540 Kidstuff (5687573). **6.25** HTV West Weather (288554). **6.30** The West

MERIDIAN

As Carlton except: 10.25 Meridian News and Local Weather (2429370). 10.30 Justice of the Land (3789660). 11.25 Slue Heelers (9845298). **12.20** Mendian News and Local Weather (4177115). **1.00** Shortland Street (48931), **1.30** Home and Away (80844), **2.00** The Jerry Springer Show (2844009). 3.20 Meridian News and Local Weather (1573660) 5.37 Three Minutes - Freescreen (320979) Weather (863), 6.30 Alfresco
Outdoor Eating [115], 10.30 Meridian
News and Local Weather (912738]. 10.45 The Road Show (763318) 11.5 The Drew Carey Show 1753931. 11.45 Renegade (949467) 12.40 Film Between Love and Hate (919429). 3.35 Cybernet (16439806). 4.00 To Be Announced (45852). 4.30 ITV Nightscreen (47603) 5.00 reescreen (24264).

As Cariton except: 10.25 Westcountry News (24/9370) 10.30 The Other Side of Paradise (28753399) 12.15 Westcountry News (2880376) 1.00 Emmedale (48931) 3.20 Westcountry News (1573660) 6.00 Westcountry Live (99592), **10.30** Westcountry News (912738), **10.45** Special Report (763318). **11.15** Tales from the Crypt (753931). **11.45** Tropical Heat (949467). **12.40** Film: Between Love and Hate (919429). **3.35** Cybernet (16439606) **4.00** To Be Announced (45852) **4.30** IT V Nightscreen (47603) **5.00** Coronalion

WESTCOUNTRY

Street (24264)

YORKSHIRE As Cariton except: 10.25 Calendar News and Weather (2429570) 1.00 Home and Away (25520083) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (931/283) 2.10 Emmerdale (3101134) 3.20 Calendar News (1573660) 5.40 News Weather (1553979) 5.55 Calendai (246467) 6.30 Tonight (II5), 10.30 Calenda: News and Weather (921486), 10.40 To Se Announced (47273912) 12.40 Good Stuff Comedy (6002039) 4.20 Jobfinder (9669264)

TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 10,25 North East News and Weather (2429370). 12.20 North East News (486863) 12.25 Notine East News (1986); 12.25 Joblini, (4185)34) 3.20 North East News and Weather (1573660) 5.55 North East Weather (300)15) 6.00 North East Tonight (99592), 10.30 North East News and Weather (921466), 10.40 Magnetic North (874738), 11.10 To Be Announced (269806)

As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Ricki

Lake (46912). 12.30 Sesame Street (8915) 1.00 Slot Methrin: Ty Chwith a Smot y Ci (46573) 1.30 Collectors Lof 42096283). 1.50 Film: Treasure of the Golden Condor jó-1897844). 4-30 Ricki Lake (912). 5-00 5Pump: Nics Nain (6483931). 5-15 5Pump: Fiel (3040283). 5-30 Counidown (592). 6-00 Newyddion 6 (239450). 6-10 Heno (616844). 7-00 Pobol v Cwm (598738) 7.25 garej (793912) 8.00 Hwyl y Noson Lawen (2283) 8.30 Newyddion (1318) 9.00 Tour de France (6202), **9.30** Friends (34509), **10.00** Brookside (757028). 10.35 Ally McBeal (650776) 11.30 Film: L 627 (2690364)) 2.15 Close

ACROSS Islamic title (5)

More amusing (7) Odd (7) Hungarian composer (5) 10 Nucleus of trained soldiers (5)

11 Drinking vessel (7) 13 Wander (4) 15 Early stage of development (6) 17 Medicine to induce vomiting

20 Endearingly contical (4) 22 Mocked (7) 24 European country (5)

26 Coral reef (5) 27 Passivity (7) 28 Handing over of money (7) 29 Sailing vessel (5)

22 Impnnt (5) 23 Not true (5) 25 Caper (5)

19 Get in touch with (7)

21 Hahitual user (6)

Small room for changing (7)

Lolled idly (5)

Holiday (6)

Moment (7)

Ranked (5)

12 Last word? (4)

14 Seep (4)

Counterfeiting (7)

Synthetic material (5)

16 Scientific study of life forms

18 Unexplained phenomenon (7)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Pew. 3 Pills (Pupils). 7 Fruition, 8 Crew. 9 Estate agents. 10 Muffin, 12 Canary, 14 Harley Street, 18 Undo. 19 House-fly, 20 Lasso, 21 Tar. DOWN: 1 Parvenu, 2 Waist, 3 Panda, 4 Lectern, 5 Scott, 6 Piston, 11 Fellows, 12 Catgut, 13 Rattler, 15 Annul, 16 Ya-

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jayne Middlemiss. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Dave Pearce. 6.30 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session. 8.30 Movie Update with Mark Kermode. 8.40 John Peel. 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs. 1.00 Charlie Jordan. 4.00 - 6.30 Clive Warren. RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan, 9.30 Ken Bruce. years logging the habits of 12.00 Jimmy Young, 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 John Dunn. 7.00 Nick Barraclough. 8.00 Mike Hardbeech in northern Cyprus ing. 9.00 Andy Peebles Soul Show. 10.00 Johnnie Walker. 10.30 Richard Allinson. 12.05 Steve Madden. 3.00 - 4.00 Alex Lester. RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week.

*11.00 Sound Stories.

4.00 Choral Eveneong.

Chris Wines. Thomas Trotter (or-

PO, Leeds Philharmonic

Organ Concerto.

Glagolitic Mass

Lavinia Greenlaw.

1000

-37.19

Section 34

5.00 in Tune.

2.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras.

7.30 Performance on 3. Live from

Tewkesbury Abbey. Introduced by

gan), Nina Rautio (soprano), Alice

(tenor), Matthew Best (bass), BBC

Chorus/Richard Hickox. Smetana:

8.10 Ivor Gumey. Poet PJ Ka-

anagh explores Gioucestershire

Eoet Ivor Gurney's powerful and

First World War, and his subse-

8.30 Concert, part 2. Janacek:

9.40 Postscript. Four commis-

sound. 3: 'Once upon a Zoo' by

poetry is read by David Goodland.

nealected work written during the

quent years in an asylum. Gurney's

sioned poems blending words and

10.00 The Piano. With Piers Lane.

middle of the last century, Europe

oso pianist composers, including

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00 Nelly et Monsieur Amaud (1995) (19283). 8.00 The Road to Galveston

(1996) (36486). 9.30 King Flatch (1991)

(1976) (38080). 3LOO King Ralph (1991)

(96950). **11.30** Little Bigfoot 2: the Journey Home (1996) (51399). **1.00** Silver Streek

(61660). **5.00** Little Bigfoot 2: the Journey Home (1996) (52955). **7.00** High Stakes (1997) (83029). **9.00** French Kiss (1995)

(53738). 1L00 Seeled with a Kiss (1996)

(710245), 2.10 Jeffrey (1995) (811535). 3.45

6.00 Cross My Heart (1987) (56988806).

6.05 Apocalypse Watch (1995) (58027660).

10757). **1.30** Apocalypse Watch (1995) 4991202). **4.00** The Skateboard Kld 2 (1995)

8.35 The Skateboard Kid 2 (1995) (8038486). 10.00 Scared Stiff* (1963)

(21115). 12.00 A Mother's Instinct (1995)

(2202), 6.00 A Mother's Instinct (1995)

(52221). 7.30 El News Week in Review

10.00 Sleepers (1996) (732486), 12.30

6.00 House of Usher (1990) (85448).

(43729757). 6.35 Earth Girls Are Easy

(1989) (64342573). **8.15** Biloxi Blues (1988) (25411912). **10.00** The Abyss (1989)

(38989592). 12.25 Parents (1983) (28941516). 1.50 Dirty Mary, Crazy Larry (1974). (3682968). 3.25 When the Cat's

ping Housewives (2903625). 10.30 Red Since Diaries (2912573). 11.00 Films. Pare-site (1962) (3091689). 1.00 Beverly Hills Bor-

Rocky II (1979) (17459103). 4.45 The Zip

4.00 The Diceman (9577689). 4.30 Top Marques (9566573). 5.00 First Flights

(1473134). **5.30** History's Turning Points (9557825). **6.00** Animal Doctor (9554738).

: (903/520). **5.Ur** Animal Doctor (955473 **6.30** Tooth and Claw (7164931). **7.30** Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe . 5567202). **6.00** Shipwreckl (8808641). **2.00** Shipwreckl (4785134). **9.30** Ship-. 4reckl (7803592). **10.00** Wonders of

(80975784). 5.00 - 6.00 A-Team (5075185).

delo (1951177). 1_30 Italian Stripping
Housewives (3975697). 2_30 Filans
the Highway Patrol (3884210). 2_30 Filans

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Away (1996) (84431413). 4.55 Close

5.00 The A-Team (8802467), 9.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (4773660), 9.30 Cops (7807318), 10.00 Italian Strip-

BRAVO

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00 The Guns of Nevarone (1961)

Bad Company (1995) (568719), 2,20 Down, Out and Dangerous (1995) (451697), 4,00 -

(7863), 6.00 North Star (1996) (52009).

ikers (1996)

(922641), **12_35** Mirad Brea

5KY MOVIES SCREEN 2

Vitava (Ma vlast). Michael Berkeley:

Coote (mezzo), Arthur Davies

Franz Liszt and Sigismund Thalberg. As Piers Lane explains, there was great rivalry between these two, but in one of the most extraordinary piano pieces of the time -'Hexameron' Liszt, Thalberg and four others combined their talents to produce a set of dazzling variations on a theme by Bellini. 'Hexameron' is performed Piers Lane, Hamish Milne and Seta Tanvel

10.45 Night Waves. From monster myths to domestic moggie, Patrick Wright explores the cultural, social and political role of animals in contemporary British culture. Plus firstnight news from Trevor Nunn's new production of 'Oklahomal'.

11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composers of the Week: Byrd and Tallis. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

RADIO 4

(92.4-94.6MHz FM) **5.00** Today. 9.00 Midweel 9.45 Serial: A Boy at the Hogarth 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

1L00 NEWS; When Harry Met Sooty. 11.30 Frank Muir - a Kentish Lad Remembered. 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 12-57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One.

1.30 Wordly Wise. (R)

2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

'Contests and Collaborations'. In the 2.15 Afternoon Play: Atia - e True spawned some of the greatest virtu-3.00 NEWS; Gardeners' Question

THE CURRENT Channel Four

repeats of the first series of

digs at family neuroses.

incarnation of the Seattle shrinks

comic actor of rare talent, takes

centre stage as the wimpy Niles

Daphne, their foxy Mancunian

housekeeper biessed with the

Weather (2916399). 10.30 Wonders of

Weather (2925047). 11.00 The Professionals (281757). 12.00 First Flights

(7686603). 12.30 Top Marques (9008719). 1.00 Shipwreckl (5601993). 2.00 Closa.

11.00 Days of Our Lives (21509). 12.00

Marriad with Children (93844), 12.30 M*A*S*H (7320775), 12.55 The Special I

Collection (96429979), **1.00** Geraldo (9619202), **1.55** The Special K Collection

(3349711). 2.55 The Special K Collection

(2017080). **3.00** Jermy Jones (3190080). **3.55** The Special K Collection (9918931). **4.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (39660).

5.00 Star Trek: Voyager (6028). 6.00 The Nanny (1689). 6.30 Married with Children

(564), 7.00 The Simpsons (7/57), 7.30 Real TV (825), 6.00 Stargete SG-1 (58283), 9.00 Outer Limits (78047), 10.00

Caribbean Uncovered (71134). 11.00 Star

Trek: Voyager (87844), 12.00 Nash Bridges (53790), 1.00 - 7.00 Long Play (5581239).

7.00 Sky Sports Centre (5724950). 715 World Wresting Federation Live Wire

(100950), **8.45** Sky Sports Centre (4768080), **8.30** Racing News (24825). **9.00** Embassy World Eight Ball Champi-

(22429592). 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael



3.30 A View with a Room. 3.45 Ways with Words. 4.00 NEWS; Four Walls. 4.30 Thinking Allowed. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 Audio Diaries. (R) 7.00 NEWS; The Archers

7:15 Front Row. TV presenter Phillip Schofield returns to the stage as Dr Dolittle in a new musical. He can talk to the animals - but can he win over the critics? Plus music from outspoken South African trumpeter Hugh Masakela. 7.45 Under One Roof: School's Out. By Wendy Lee, based on the

original story by Michele Hanson. Chloe's school career is over, and everyone but Gillian is in holiday mood, With Paola Dionisotti, Edna Dore and Luisa Bradshaw-White. Director Tabitha Potts (3/5). 8.00 NEWS; The Moral Maze. Michael Buerk and his team of regulars cross-examine 'witnesses' about their views on the morel questions behind one of the week's headlines.

8.45 World Cup Letters. The second of two programmes in which Simon Barnes of the Times and the Spectator takes a wry look at an event all too often characterised by bluster and hyperbole. 9.00 NEWS; Lifelines, People with a passion for science 1: 'Turning Turtles'. Brendan Godley is a crusading biologist who alms to save the Mediterranean sea turtle from extinction. See Choice, above

voice of a young Hilda Ogden.

SATELLITE CHOICE

RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 The Breakfast Programme. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Nationwide. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Will Carling's World of Rugby.

SATELLITE AND CABLE



onships (89738). **1LOO** Cricket · Women's One-Day International England v Australia (5264757) See Choice, above. 2.30 Tales from the Premiership The Nearly Men (5172). 3.00 Cricket · Women's One-Day national England v Australia (318115). 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (1221), 6.30 Tales from the Premiership Hey, Big Spenders

7.00 Tattooed Teenage Alien Fighters from Beverly Hills (78196). 7.30 Games World (2573), 7.00 Futbol Mundial (2399), 7.30 (1111370). 7.45 The Simpsons (28432). 8.45 Full Throntle (98080). 8.30 Cricket -The Oprah Winfrey Show (8965486), 9.00 Hotel (44202), 10.00 Another World (86115). Women's One-Day International England v Australia (17467). 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (115660). 10.15 Tales from the Premiership Hey, Big Spenders (926825), 10.45 Futbol Mundial (925196), 11.15 Snocker (182134) 115 Sky Sports Centre (9138871). 1.30 World of Super League with Eddie and Stevo (14871). 3.30 Tales from the Premier ship Hey, Big Spenders (17158), 4.00 Sky Sports Centre (27114239), 4.15 Close

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (7278776). 7.30 Sky Sports Centre (5529912), 7.45 Racing News (5409405). 8.15 Tales from the Premiership The Nearty Men (271757), 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (2799738), 9.00 Fish TV The Ultimate Fishing Show (7550405). 9.30 European Golf Skills Challenge (1153196). 11.30 LPGA Golf: Jamie Farr Kroger Classic (9645115) 1.30 Golf Extra (7192973). 4.30 Snooker (9654863). 6.30 The Winning Post (2696467) 8.30 Embassy World Eight Ball Championships (7435080): 10.30 Golf Extra (3644134): 1.30 European Tour

5KY SPORTS 3 2.00 Sports Unimited (86381202) 3.00 4.00 Watersports World (38141979) 5.00 Wresting (40943641) 6.00 European Tour

Golf (91531134). 6.30 Full Throttle (91522486), 7.00 Fish TV (40944370), 7.30 Fish TV Fishing Texas 1915/1370). 8.00 Super League (27769399) 10,00 Greatest Moments in Sport (12752660), 10.30 Sporting Heroes (86986196), 11.30 Close. EUROSPORT

(99414) 11.00 Tenns (57080), 11.30 Saling (65009), **12.00** Motocross (20009), **12.30** Mountain Bike (56912), **1.00** Tour de France (51467) 2.00 Tour de France (81138641) 4.15 Speedworld (77756196), 6.20 Football (73839134), 8.30 Funboard (35863) 10.00 Tour de France (68196) 12-00 Speedworld (59871) 12.30 Close UK GOLD

7.00 Crossicads (2804467) 7.30 Heighbours (2126825) 7.55 EastEnders (3726825), 8.30 The Bill (2905912), 9.00 The Bill (2920592), 9.30 Stay Ludy (3587486) 10.30 The Subvans (2926.76). 11.00 Dallas (3488221) 11.55 Neighbours (892-97776), 12-25 EastEnders (5431234). 1.00 All Creatures Great and Small [7880641] 2.00 Dallas (6010863) 2.55 The Bill (5845009), **3.25** The Bit (9043757).

7.30 Olympic Magazine (22931), 8.00 Mo-tor Sport (43660), 9.00 Your de France

12.00 Wrestling (48298080), 1.00 Fish TV (65500080), 1.30 Fish TV (48218844). World Tenpin Bowling Masters (38122844).

Sections of the section of the secti



THOMAS SUTCLIFFE TELEVISION REVIEW

pulations" (in Punorema's ort on germ warfare earch programmes in the mer Soviet Unico). Both grammes ahared the same tentous manner. nox's programme sian Roulette") and that t blological weapons d devastate entire hrai voice overs (Piere n end Tom Mangold tively), ominous

It'e

aspectively), orninous asspectively), orninous on the soundtracks ind shots of the dejected aussian landscape which light breed these man-made irrnageddons. Both elso eclined to admit any sceptical pices, white-coated party-oppers who might temper the isson of imminent doorn with little cold logic. These things and imppen, it's true. But aw likely is it that they will? Mangold's Parnorama.

3BC1) film, for instance, acluded one sequence in hich e biological weapone spert commented on the passible effects of e terrorist fack on London using home-inde anthrax. His speculation as thet two-thirds of the pulefton might ho effected, a astonishingly bigh figure iven the difficulty of secunitating biological gents, but there was no expert in hand to caim the nerves or intradict. And when Mangold iterviewed a manifestly for thempting loget hold of lagno cultures), the sense of eving taken a wrong turning to an epocelyptic theme park was intensified. There ere eople one might take erfously on this subject, but e hen who (hinks the world is on the sactivan

If the vision of London crammed with the dead and dying didn't press your panic button, then the prospect of one kiloton bomb going off in Piccedilly Circus might heve done. This alternative scenario was proposed in Equinca's (C4) alightly more sober examination of the decrepit state of Russie's nuclear defances - systems thet are possibly more dangerous now then they were during the most frigid stretches of the Cold War. Apparently, the Russians constructed 132 suitcase purclear hombs and can see the cold war.

possible that those responsible for making them in the first place lied about how many they had produced – mendecity about output being a venerable Soviet tradition – but it is more solisfactorily scary to think of them out there somewhere, being lugged around by some block-marketeer or opportunistic criminal (Alan Rickinan for the film role). I wasn't sure either about the Implication that the Ruesian two-man launch procedure could be

system which allowed in be utterly pointiese, solidly unicrying wes allowed by and discount of the solid of the system which allowed the system was allowed the system of the system of

of a clisaster arising impetence or ce is a real one. But it to been nice, given tance of the subject both cases, to have nentaries with a mentaries with a

CUMBRIAN TALES (Dom BBC2 right) A Your in Provence meets Emmeriale meets Lady Clusterley's Lover es two of life's odder belifeliows prepare to scitle down in rural Cumbrie. Ros, an advertising executive, is leeving Loudon to marry Roddy, e faritier from Irely, north of Keswick. Tonight is all prenuptial scene-setting - the by-now inevitoble local "characters" such as Exic the slick-helred sliepherd and the battle-axc trother-in-law to-be. Two neatly dovetailed quotes sum up their attitudes: "No more poncing about in wine bars at lunchtime,"

here, there were doubts about the exact nature of the evidence. Ken Alibek, a high-level defector from the Rusalan

smallpox and Ebola, but be didn't reveal how he knew, and the project seemed oddly redundant anyway, giveo thet elther disease will kill you perfectly satisfactorily on its own. The remark of one intelligence expert ebout Russian openness - "Finding the truth is like grabbing e bar of soap in the shower" - had a wider epplication than he perhans internated 10

7.30 Tomorrow's World. Featuring the low-noise, low-weight apparatus which ellows divers to stey underwater for up to eix hours. Meanwhile, Anya Siterem meets an Itelian dinosaur (S) (T) (831).

5.00 Only Fools and Horses. An oid school friend of Del's turns up. Cue old jokes (R) (S) (T) (9673)

5,30

BIDIRS Blazing Seddlea (Mel Brooks 1974 US).

Prisstil end all that, Irreverent western spoof about a black eheriff trying to control e lawless town, helped by a drunken deputy – once the fostest gun in the Wast – played by Gene Wilder (1) (733979).

Seo Film of the Day, below 18

Joina BBC News 24 (33488239). To 8em

Children's 55C: Pingu (R) (3344467), 3.40 Playdeys (R) (S) (6434008), 4.00 Popeye (R) (2744405), 4.10 To Ms... to You (S) (T) (9243318), 4.35 The Wild House (R) (S) (T) (3197388), 8.00 Newsround (S) (T) (3045738), 5.10 Record Breekers (R) (S) (T) (6840979).

5.00 News Westher (T) (467). Neighbours. Billy decides to drop out of his course, Caltin plays it cool with Nick, end Harold discovers a love letter from Serah to Kari (S) (T) (378115).

Watchdog: the Big Olinner. Jonethan Meltland locks at the real meaning of the label "By Royal Appoinment" when it eppeare on food products (S) (T) (7775).

5.00

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

BBC1

H.05 Pole to
Regional News;
cond Counts (R)
1 Cock (S) (T)
S) (23235495).
Regional News

Newsroom South East, Regional news magazine (T) (937).

The Netional Lottery Orew. Ringo Starr is on little coloured-ball duty (S) (T) (321573).

5.45 Pointe ot View. With Carol Vordermen (S) (T) (31198). News; Regional News| Weether (T) (5592).

director of Asmbo, en enterleining updete on the yern about Wyett Earp teking on the Clanton mob and restoring law and order to the town of Tombetone. Kurt Russell facks a certain grevitae es the tormer US mershal who leaves Dodge City Intent on seeking his fortune, but Val Kilmsr is on rere eong as his loyal efdekick, Doc Hollidey. There ere impressive supporting pleyers, too, including Cheriton Heston, Billy Zane and Jason Priestley (S) (T) (74592).

IIM clesh by Night (Fritz Lang 1952 US). Brooding Barbare Stenwyck dreme (T) (45406825).

12.30 Working Lunch (94047), 1.00 The Beechgrove Garden (S) (51405), 1.30 People's Cantury (R) (S) (T) (1382028), 2.25 Ceron Cooper's Cooking with Confidence (R) (S) (5229115), 2.40 News; Local News; Westher (T) (8949757), 2.45 Westminster (S) (T) (2988554), 3.55 News; Local News; Weather (T) (2434806).

IIIM Chence of e Litetime (Jonathen Sanger 1990 US). Pleasent-enough bereavement comedy with Leslie Nielsen (S) (490420pp).

5.35 Antiquee Treeeure Treil (S) (376757).

6.00 Ster Trek: The Next Generation. Injured and stranded on e strenge planet, Riker has to keep his identity secret in order to stay alive, poor lamb (R) (S) (T) (601912).

5.45 Golt - the Open. Steve Rider reports on the eve of the Open Championship from Royel Birkdele Golf Chub, Southport. Delending chemp Justin Leonard elms to entertein e bereft netion in the obsence of the World Cup end Wimbledon (S) (817370).

7.30 Leviethen. Millernium historian Felips Fernandez-Armeeto seeks to identity the single most Important event in the history of the world snd Quentin Willson celebrates (if that's the word) 40 yeers of British motorweys (S) (573). Two Fet Ledlee. Jennifer Peterson end Clerisea Dickson Wright prepere e pukka picnic for the Colwyn Mais Voice Choir in Llendudno (R) (S) (T) (7115).

8.30 Looking Good. Anthee Turner offers her opinions on how to pack e suitcese – e cruel assignment for e women with such peinful recent experiences of the eubject (S) (9850).

5.00 SiDICE Cumbrien Teles. A six-part series on rural life in the Cumbrien village of reby in North Keswick. See Documentary of the Day, below (S) (T) (3134).

INTEREST AMONGST WOMEN. Drame earles, set in rural 1950s Ireland, about e close-knit family bound together by teer, decelt end love. Ses Drama of the Day, below (S) (T) (63283).

Newenight. Paxmen's in the house (1) (808486).

nes end Dominick Dunne... egain. Their at was just too precious end is prasarved his overspill show. A verifeble wsterbutt of irtricigeism (S) (234047).

12.00 The Midnight Hour (7587), 12.30 BBC Learning Zone: The Chemistry of Creation (7) (25061), 1.00 The Chemistry of the Invisible (7) (65784), 1.30 The Chemistry of Creativity (7) (77332), 2.00 The Greats: Exponers 4 (1643), 4.00 World Cup French: The French Experience I: 13 -15 (5885), 5.00 Business end Training: Windrush: Growing Your Business (4829413), 5.45 OU; Harvesting the Sun (8693887), 10 6:0am.

BBC2

OO Teletubbles (S) (1869028). 7.26: Dink, the Litile Dinoseur (1871883). Get Your Own Back (R) (S) (T) (4508283). 6.16 Willy Fog (R) (T) (2475318). Barney (R) (8649398). 5.45 Tha Racord (S) (2146486). 5.10 Hewkeye (R) (3329738). 5.50 Certoon (8333641). Telatubbles (S) (13757). 10.30 Nobis Thoughts (S) (1573134). 10.40 Beechgrove Clippinga (S) (8944683).

6.00 Lond cepita bulletir

7.30 Coron meteph pursuso

B.00 Cethe

5.00 Taggart. "Dead Reckoning". The first of a new series of the gritty Glasgow police drame eeries. An outwardly respectable escort agency – that rare thing – comes under investigation when e young Glasgow women is murdered (S) (T) (6573)

10.00 Newsj Weether (T) (58399).

10.40 First S 10.30 London Tonight. Asgional news updete (T) (921486).

First Sign of Madness. Repseted comedy-drame monologue sterring Pauline Quirke. Mel, e rether ead competition eddict, searches the supermarket eisles for potentially prize-winning lebels (R) (S) (874738).

12.45 IIIM They Live (John Carpenter 1988 US). So-su sci-fi social saths – fry saying that with your testh out – masquerading se e B-movie (287332). 11.10 Absolut (715047) itely Loeded (384931). 11.40 Motorway (T) 12:10 Good Stuft Comedy (R) (S) (5996595).

2.30 One Summer In Whitby (T) (48535), 3.00 Vanessa (R) (S) (T) (5722558), 3.35 Cybernet (S) (18347671), 4.05 Soundtrax (S) (29235610), 4.20 ITV Nightscreen (9569284), 5.30 ITN Morning News (70326). To 6am.

9.28 Child

8.40 Newe; Weather (T) (277047).

6.30 London Bridge. "Revi does not realise Jarvie sew him kissing Msg. Diene sets off on her emotionel journey to Ghane, end Luke has a surprise visit from his ex-girlfriend." Who are these people? (S) (115).

n**etion Street.** Jim end Liz (ake e huge step. shoricelly speaking, white Selly is still being sd by Greg (T) (399).

wine Cookeon's The Gembling Man.

ned es e tribute to the writer, who died lisst month.

n Green plays e rent collector who hopes to

his way out of the Sauth Shelida slums, circa 1870,

s card-playing prowess (R) (S) (T) (3009). 8.00 Srookelde. Ron has upset Jimmy end Jimmy isn't a happy scouser. Meanwhile, surrogete niother Jacqui stlempts to sneak into Liverpool unnoticed (T) (2283).

6.30 Oeals on Whoels. Mike Brewer snitfs out a bargam set of wheels, and there are some top tips to help buyers get the most for their money (T) (1316).

B.00 Slack Box. The tirst of a new six-pert sories profifing the work of eir-crash detectives. The first programme tocuses on the loss of TWA Flight 800, which exploded shortly after its teke-cit from Kennedy Airport nimest two years ago, with the loss of 230 lives. The team aftempt to discover the cause of the crash and scotch some of the wilder conspiracy theories (5) (7) (415).

10.00 Ally McBeel. Grating yet nddictive sitcorn nbout a similow American lawyer. Tonight, the gerbil-faced brief does what she does best, succumbing to a holtefoss crush end getting on a rabbits ncrvos (SI (T) (961.132).

10.55 Cybill. American sitcum. Rachel is in labour - Kevin. Cybill and Jeff are there for her (S) (T) (894592).

Barking (T) (373025). 11.58 Weekly Planol (4.16310).
1.25 From the Asios (R) (S) (T) (9100871). 1.55 Tim Cassol (II) (2492264). 3.16 Trackelde (R) (43905). 3.45 Transworld Sport (R) (187006). 4.45 Gamesmaster (R) (S) (T) (89595). 5.15 Tuur de France (R) (3259081). 5.65 Sesamo Street (R) (S) (1864983). Tu 7am.

Carlton

Channel

V (1318467).

28 Children's ITV: Extreme Dinoseurs (S) (T) (8692202).
9.55 Judge Judy (R) (T) (4945738). 10.25 London
Today (T) (2429370). 10.30 The Other Side of Paredise
(S) (T) (95106979). 12.20 Your Shout (417715). 12.30
(News; Weethst (T) (81573). 1.00 London Today (T)
(48931). 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T)
(5451880). 2.15 Home end Avvey (S) (T) (502134).
2.45 Supermarket Sweep (R) (S) (T) (501405).
3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (1583047). 3.20 London
Today (T) (1573680).

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The Three Stooges (1518863). 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (6467). 12.00 Sesame Street (S) (46912). 12.30 Light Lunch (R) (S) (T) (80008). 1.30 Beijsman Revisited (42086283).

(R) (S) (T) (1745318). 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (9020080). 7.38 Wind in the Willows (R) (4175950). 8.00 Havekszoo (S) (3845912). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (3844283). 5.00 Secret Lives (R) (S) (T) (3868863). 5.30 The Opneh Windrey Show (R) (S) (6143573). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (4026047). 11.10 Leaze (R) (S) (6439641). 12.00 5 News et Noon (S) (T) (3855399). 12.30 Family Allairs (S) (T) (348554). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (1744689). 1.30 Sons and Daughters (3484825). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (5447196). 2.30 Open Houso with Glorle Hunnitord (S) (8307009).

ITIM London Belongs To Me (Sidney Gillial 1948 UK). Dark boarding-house drama featuring a post-Brighton Rock Richerd Attenborough es a mechenic eccused of murder (22456405).

1.50

9.00

Big Sreekfeat (S) (T) (43486).

6.00

hannel 5

THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW
The Independent 15 July 1998

3.25 Children's ITV₁ Tots TV _(R) (S) (1563283), 3.35 Tlich (R) (S) (7986689), 3.45 Slim Pig (R) (7966826), 4.00 Chatterhoppy Ponles (S) (T) (2739573), 4.10 Gerifield end Frienda (R) (2735757), 4.20 Walter Melon (T) (9227370), 4.45 The Scoop (S) (T) (311979), 5.10 Home and Away (S) (T) (5687573),

3,30

Weteroolour Chellenge (T) (221). 4.00 Fillsen to One (S) (T) (888). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3181738).

EILA Lest Holidey (Henry Cess 1950 U/C), J B Phesiley-scripted comedy drama about e terminally ill man (Alec Guirness) going out in style (T) (84697844).

3.30

RICKI Leke. Men who relues to be seen outside the house with their emple spouses (R) (S) (T) (5651641).

4.55

ton Tonight. Regional naws updete for the all and the South-Eest, including a local weather in (T) (863).

6.00 Tour de Frence. Phil Liggett eurveye the usual tangle of twieted metsl end broken epokes on todey's longest stege. 252km from Plouey to Cholet (S) (T) (405).

Boy Meeta World. Americen sitcom. Cory end Shawn learn en important lesson (S) (757).

8,30

Family Affaire. Jack is lonely. Else remains busy, end Roy gains the first booking for sosp-tend's nawest novelty business (S) (T) (1885660).

6.00 100 Per Cent Chellenge. A week-long special of top-notch contestents from top quiz series such as Mestermind and The Krypton Factor (S) (1881080).

5.30 Pet Rescuers. A teenege girl telks about her horse which spent most of hie early life in a cage (S) (T) (582).

<u>8:10</u>

The Opreh Wintrey Show. Guests tell Opreh how they ecquired their wealth - cen't welt (S) (5242080).

US). Realily-based TV movie (just for s chenge) on the subject of climber Molly Higgins, a respected young mountaineer yomping her wey up a freacherous mountain in the former Soviet Union. Stenderd fare with fresh photography (1797202).

7.00 Emmerdele. Tara and Bilf face exposure, while Kelly has some bad newe for Roy (S) (T) (8221). 6.30

7.00 Chennel 4 News; Weether. Including headlinss at 7.30pm (S) (T) (481776).

7.50 **Deadline 2000.** Dave Curry appeals on behalf of the almost-extinct hervest mouse (S) 17) (654028).

8.00

The Pepel Chart. A showcase of the best five ecis and information on whete heppening in the world of music. Plus. DJ Dr Fox with a chart run-down (SI (5450660).

7,30

Weodiend Teles. Wildlife documentery tooking at blue lits nesting inside their boxes (R) (S) (T) (1081644)

7.00

5 Newe, Including First on Five. National end international news with Kirsty Young (S) (T) (54-1912)

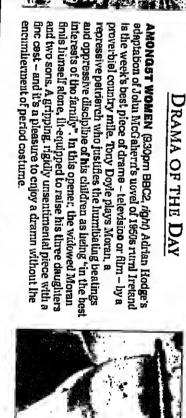
5.30 Club Culturo. Peter Stringfellow shows of his famous penchont for women patently too young for him. And hair: how not to wear it when you're 50. Oh, end thero's not our of his club too (S) (TI (5448487).

US) Action-packorf epaghotti western starring Chuck Norris - the men with the siliest name in Hollywood - as a maverick Texns ranger. This mewerick etreak is usually manifested in knrate chops end martial arts-style kicks to the feed. As Chuck Norris movies go, this isn't the west example, but it's etill o Chuck Norris ratiovie (2436486).

11.00 Compromising Situations. Late-night self-ports which bumps Jack Ducherly oven further down the schodules. A country shiger rorllscovers meaning in the when to bumps into an old philiform! (S) (6-12764t).

11.40 The Jeck Occilerty Show (S) (8464573). 12.20 Major Leigue Busebull - Live (S) (56433142) 4.40 Mudman of the People [77956072) 5.05 Throb [16940516). 5.30 100 Per Cenl Challenge (S) (3700784). To Gam.

THEFTSIAN GIRDS BY PETER CANCILL



FILM OF THE DAY

BLAZING SAOOLES (1130pm 88C1 right) The real film of the day. Sidney Gilliat's nusctiling Loutlow Belongs to Me with Richard Attenborough and Alastair Sim, is schedded lunearly in the norming to have any ambitions for an sudience much larger than a bus innere, so, by default, one turns to McI Brooks's anarchic jumboree. It's the surreal patetwork of sel-piece sketches which hove made it into a cult film; Cleavon Little's black sheriff taking himself hostage when threatened by o lynch much, the sight gags at the expense of horses and, of course, the camp-live scene. Chiklish, paterile... it cetts, like a forthmouthed siren, to the Intent 15 year-old in you.



حكمتا من الاحل